

## SHARING YOUR MEDICAL INFORMATION

### Background

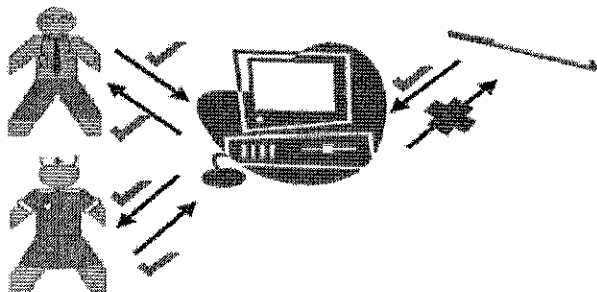
- For a number of years, work has been ongoing to improve the way that medical records are made available to treating clinicians. Our main computer system is called SystmOne, which has the advantage of enabling information to be shared between certain health professionals.
- **SystmOne sharing** enables us, with your consent, to share your medical records with those in the NHS who are involved in your care. NHS staff can only access shared information if they are involved in your care and being an electronic service an audit log is maintained showing when and who has accessed medical records.
- **SystmOne Sharing only allows those treating you to access medical records. It does not enable your records to be used for research or other purposes.**
- This sharing helps clinicians to make decisions based upon a wider knowledge of you and also helps to reduce the number of times that you or your family members are asked the same question. **In short it assists clinicians to provide more 'joined up care'.**

### If I agreed, who could see my records?

- Sharing will allow clinicians treating you, who have access to SystmOne to view and in some cases update your medical records. Locally this includes the Walk-In-Centre, many departments at local hospitals (including A&E) and community services, such as the District Nursing Team. It is anticipated that over time more health services will be able to benefit from this.
- Clinicians outside of the surgery who wish to access your medical records will ask for your permission to do so and will need to have been issued with a NHS Smartcard. This is a 'chip and pin' card -similar to a bank card.

### Can I 'opt out' pick and choose who sees my record?

- Yes, you can. With this sharing there are two levels of consent. The first is to agree to sharing your medical records **OUT** of the practice. This is your agreement that records maintained by your GP can be seen, **subject to your authority at the time**, by clinicians working outside of the surgery. The second is agreeing to share your records **IN**. This means that your GP can see the records made by other health professionals who have access to SystmOne.
- However, as the treating clinician needs to ask your permission to see the records at the beginning of each period of care **you are in control of who can see your medical information.**
- For example the diagram below shows that the patient has agreed to share his medical records with the District Nurse and the surgery. However, whilst he is happy for his GP to see notes made by the local smoking cessation adviser he doesn't want the adviser to have access to his other medical records.



At East Norwich Medical Partnership we currently share records on an individual-patient level and not currently at organisational level.

You can ask for the sharing option to be switched on or off. If the sharing option is off none of the information recorded by your doctor will be visible at any other care service.