

## **NHS Tayside Electronic Health Record- What does it mean for you?**

### **What is an NHS Tayside Electronic Health Record?**

NHS Scotland believes that clinical services need medical information held electronically to deliver you healthcare that is safe, efficient, effective and patient centred healthcare to you.

The Electronic Health Record will provide important information to the doctors and nurses looking after you. They will use this information to help them plan and discuss with you the safest and best care for you. It will be used:

- If you need urgent medical care when your GP surgery is closed
- If you have to go to an Accident and Emergency Department
- If you are receiving care in an NHS Tayside hospital

### **What does an NHS Tayside Electronic Health Record contain?**

Currently, an NHS Tayside Electronic Health Record contains:

- Your name
- Your date of birth
- The name of your GP Surgery
- CHI Number (your Scottish NHS number)
- Your medication
- Information relevant to your care & treatment – such as important illnesses, operations, allergies and reactions you may have to medicines
- Basic information such as height, weight, & recent blood pressure

## **Who can look at my NHS Tayside Electronic Health Record?**

Initially, the following clinicians will be able to see your Electronic Health Record:

- Your GP & Practice Nurses involved in your care at your General Practice
- Doctors and Nurses at NHS Tayside hospitals and clinics who are directly involved in your care and treatment
- Doctors and Nurses at Accident and Emergency Departments who are directly involved in your care
- Out of Hours Services for unscheduled care

### **Looking at an NHS Tayside Electronic Health Record can make the following care possible:**

- ✓ NHS staff will be able to see accurate information about your health wherever you are. This might be in a hospital, a GP practice or in an out of hour's medical centre.
- ✓ Some people may be able to access specialist services and care in remote areas using video links for example.
- ✓ Faster access to X ray and test results
- ✓ Important information about your health sent quickly and safely to your specialist, or consultant.
- ✓ If you have complex medical needs, it will help your clinical team to share information about your health.
- ✓ Viewing your own health record.

## **What is wrong with Paper Records?**

- Paper can only be in one place at one time.
- You may need care in several and different places
- There is a risk that information will not be available to the doctors looking after you.

## **What are the benefits of Electronic Health Records?**

- ✓ Information will be up to date
- ✓ Doctors and Nurse can find your information quickly.
- ✓ Provides the doctors and nurses with the information they need to give you better, safer treatment.
- ✓ Easier to look at than paper records
- ✓ Easier to check for important information relevant to your care and treatment
- ✓ Available throughout Tayside

## Privacy

- ✓ This leaflet is to help you understand how NHS Tayside will use the information in your Electronic Health Record
- ✓ This leaflet explains what will happen to information in the Electronic Health Record and with whom it will be shared.

## Confidentiality

Individuals have the right to confidentiality and this is something that is taken very seriously by clinicians and the NHS.

There are a range of safeguards in place:

1. The NHS Scotland Code of Practice on Protecting Patient Confidentiality binds NHS staff.
2. NHS staff must not disclose personal health information unless it is in their patients' best interest.
3. Professional and legal obligations

For more information:

The leaflets 'Confidentiality – it's your right' and 'How to see your Health Records' give you more information about your right to confidentiality and your right to see your health records.

Under the Data Protection Act 1998, you have a right to know who holds personal information about you.

This person or organisation is the data controller.

In the NHS, the data controller is usually your local NHS Board or General Practice.

Your local NHS Board is NHS Tayside.

These leaflets are available in a number of different formats from your GP or dental surgery or at your hospital. If you cannot find the leaflets in these places, you should ask **NHS Tayside Communications Team** for a copy

Further information can be found at Health Rights Information Scotland website

[www.hris.org.uk](http://www.hris.org.uk)



# NHS Tayside Electronic Health Record

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**A short guide for patients**