



Sharing information to improve care

Patient information



For more information visit:
www.rotherhamhealthrecord.org



About the Rotherham Health Record

The Rotherham Health Record is an electronic system for sharing your health information in a secure way with health and care staff who provide care directly to you. This gives them access to the most up-to-date information so that they can provide better and quicker care.

Health and care professionals, including doctors and nurses, who are directly providing your care, will see a summary of your existing records – such as those held by your GP, hospital or social care provider – to allow them to make the right decisions with you and for you. You will only have to tell your story once.

Your record will contain information from the following organisations, if they have provided care for you at any time:

- Rotherham GP practices
- The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (hospital and community)
- Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (Mental Health) [Available in late 2018](#).
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (Adult and Children Social Care Services)
- Rotherham Hospice

The current Summary Care Record only holds information at your GP practice, however, the Rotherham Health Record holds information from all services to deliver better care for you.

What information is shared?

Your Rotherham health record will include information such as:

- basic personal details including name, address, date of birth, next of kin.
- list of diagnoses – to enable health and care staff to make better decisions and treat your condition better.
- details of any medications you are taking.
- details of any allergies.
- test results – to avoid having to repeat tests and speed up your treatment.
- letters, referrals and discharge information.

Geoff's story:

"I have a number of health conditions that need treatment. I have some treatments at the hospital from my consultant and some from the practice nurse at my GP surgery. I have to tell each of these teams what the latest is about my health every time I go to an appointment because they aren't able to see each other's notes on the system.

It would be so much more convenient if they were able to show all my referrals and appointments so that everyone could see what tests and treatments I am having. I worry that I'm going to give them the wrong information because it's up to me to explain everything to everyone I see or speak to each time."

Why do you need to share my information?

It is essential that care professionals delivering direct care to individuals have access to up-to-date and accurate information. In the past, when you have received care in a number of places in Rotherham, such as the hospital or GP practice, your information has been stored on different computer systems. Having a more joined-up and co-ordinated record will improve the way information about you is shared in order to deliver better care.

The sharing of this information already occurs in order to deliver care to you, however it is currently done by paper and telephone which can cause delays in your treatment or care.

Who will be able to see my information?

Only Rotherham health or care staff (mentioned on the opposite page) involved in directly providing your care will have access to your information in the Rotherham Health Record system. We will not share your information with any third party who is not providing you with care, treatment or support.

What are the benefits of having a Health Record?

- You won't have to repeat information about your health and social care to different people.
- Professionals providing care to you will be able to find information about you when they need it.
- Your care will be better co-ordinated, with health and care professionals able to make informed decisions about your diagnosis, treatment and care plan.
- You will be able to avoid unnecessary appointments and tests.
- Clinicians and social care workers will have more time to spend looking after you because there will be less paperwork.

How do I know my records are safe and secure?

Legally, everyone working in, or on behalf of the NHS and Rotherham Council social care services, must follow confidentiality rules and keep all information about you in a safe and secure way. Information about you will be viewed through a secure and audited system that meets strict security standards and data protection legislation.

In addition, each organisation's privacy officer will carry out regular checks to make sure that your records are only viewed by authorised health and social care staff, who have a valid reason.

How do I opt out if I don't want my information to be shared?

You can opt out of having your information shared through the Rotherham Health Record at any time. If you would like to opt out please use one of the following options:

- Email: **rotherhamhealthrecord@nhs.net**
- Call: **01709 427299**
- Write to: **Rotherham Health Record Consent
Subject access request team
Rotherham Hospital
S60 2UD**

We ask you to think carefully before opting out as sharing your health and social care records will make it easier to provide the best care and support for you in Rotherham. If you opt out, you may not always receive the best available service that meets your specific needs. For example, the out-of- hours GP service may not be fully aware of which medications you are currently taking and so be unable to advise on the best course of action for you.

You can change your mind at any time.

