



BETTER INFORMATION MEANS BETTER CARE

Using information about the care you have received, enables those involved in providing care and health services to improve the quality of care and health services for all. The role of the [Health and Social Care Information Centre \(HSCIC\)](#) is to ensure that high quality information is used appropriately to improve patient care.

[NHS England](#) has therefore commissioned a programme of work on behalf of the NHS, public health and social care services to address gaps in information. Our aim is to ensure that the best possible evidence is available to improve the quality of care for all.

It is important that the NHS can use this information to get a complete picture of what is happening across health and social care and to plan services according to what works best. The new system will provide joined-up information about the care received from all of the different parts of the health service, including hospitals and GP practices.

Your date of birth, full postcode, [NHS Number](#) and gender rather than your name will be used to link your records in a secure system, managed by the HSCIC. Once this information has been linked, a new record will be created. This new record will not contain information that identifies you. The type of information shared, and how it is shared, is controlled by law and strict confidentiality rules.

Sharing information about the care you have received helps to understand the health needs of everyone and the quality of the treatment and care provided and reduce inequalities in the care provided. The new system will also provide information that will enable the public to hold the NHS to account and ensure that any unacceptable standards of care are identified as quickly as possible.

Better Information Means Better Care:

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/thenhs/records/healthrecords/Documents/better-information-means-better-care.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions:

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/thenhs/records/healthrecords/Documents/Care.data%20patient%20FAQs%20V4%2024022014.pdf>