

January 2014

CARE.DATA PROGRAMME

A national care.data programme is being delivered by the Health and Social Information Centre (HSCIC) and NHS England.

Purpose

Since 1980's HSCIC have been collecting information regarding every hospital admission, nationwide. The information is anonymised and has been invaluable for monitoring the quality of hospital care, for planning NHS services and for conducting research into new treatments.

However the information collected is incomplete, with areas such as prescribing and test results not currently included so it has not been possible to see a complete picture of care that the individual receives.

NHS England has therefore commissioned a programme on behalf of the NHS, public health and social care services to address these gaps. This is known as the care.data programme.

Its overall aim is to:

- Ensure the best possible evidence is available to improve the quality of care for all
- Better understand and improve the health of the nation
- Find ways of targeting, preventing and treating and managing illness and disease
- Better anticipate future need for services and plan and commission accordingly

Information being gathered includes;

- Family history
- Vaccinations
- Diagnoses
- Referrals
- Biological values (e.g. blood pressure, BMI, cholesterol)
- NHS prescriptions
- DOB
- Postcodes
- NHS numbers
- Gender

All the data will be linked to analyse patient care across pathways. Free text will not be included

Timescales

The campaign started locally on 6th January, whereby leaflets are being delivered. The first data extraction will be in April 2014.

January 2014

Patient Choice

As a patient you can object to

- Patient Confidential Data (PCD) leaving the practice
- PCD leaving HSCIC for secondary purposes, including commissioning and maybe in future to approved researchers.

You do not have to give a reason for your objection. We will note your patient records accordingly.

Patient information

Further information can be found on the website address below:

www.nhs.uk/caredata

From 6/1/14 – 31/3/14 there is a patient helpline number (this is on the back of the leaflet)

0300 456 3531

If you still require assistance, please contact the Practice Manager, Jayne Crocken who will be happy to help.