

How your information is used for medical research and to measure the quality of care

Medical research

Harlow Road Surgery shares information from medical records:

- to support medical research when the law allows us to do so, for example to learn more about why people get ill and what treatments might work best;
- we will also use your medical records to carry out research within the practice.

This is important because:

- the use of information from GP medical records is very useful in developing new treatments and medicines;
- medical researchers use information from medical records to help answer important questions about illnesses and disease so that improvements can be made to the care and treatment patients receive.

We share information with the medical research organizations with your explicit consent or when the law allows. **However, at present we do not have any such exchange of information agreement in place**.

You have the right to object to your identifiable information being used or shared for medical research purposes. Please speak to the practice if you wish to object and complete the Right to object form 6.1

Checking the quality of care - national clinical audits

Harlow Road Surgery contributes to national clinical audits so that healthcare can be checked and reviewed.

- Information from medical records can help doctors and other healthcare workers measure and check the quality of care which is provided to you.
- The results of the checks or audits can show where hospitals are doing well and where they need to improve.
- The results of the checks or audits are used to recommend improvements to patient care.
- Data is accessed by NHS Digital, a national body with legal responsibilities to collect data.
- The data will include information about you, such as your NHS Number and date of birth and information about your health which is recorded in coded form for example the code for diabetes or high blood pressure.
- We will only share your information for national clinical audits or checking purposes when the law allows.
- For more information about national clinical audits see the Healthcare Quality Improvements Partnership website www.hqip.org.uk
- You have the right to object to your identifiable information being shared for national clinical audits. Please contact the practice if you wish to object and complete the Right to object form 6.1.

We are required by law to provide you with the following information about how we share your information for medical research purposes.

Data Controller contact details	Harlow Road Practice – 1 Harlow Road – Rainham – RM13 7UP
Data Protection Officer	Zubair.ahmad1@nhs.net
Purpose of the processing	Medical research and to check the quality of care which is given to patients (this is called national clinical audit).
Lawful basis for processing	 We make use of the following GDPR regulations to process data in our surgery for the purposes of research and check the quality of the care, we provide: Article 6(1)(e) and Article 9(2)(a) Please note that if you give us you explicit consent, the information is used under Article 9(2)a. However, the surgery reserves the right use use article 9(2)(j) where it deems to be a medical necessity to processing is necessary for scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes in accordance with Article 89(1) based on Union or Member States law which shall be proportionate to the aim pursued, respect the essence of the right to data protection and provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the fundamental rights and interests of the data subject'. Please note that in order the check the quality of care we provide we may use your data under Article 9(2)(h).
Recipient or categories of recipients of the processed data	For medical research purpose we may share your data. We maintain a list of such organisations. Kindly ask reception for list of research organisations Reference 6.3
Rights to object and the national data opt-out	You have a right to object under the GDPR and the right to 'opt-out' under the national data opt-out model. The national data opt-out model provides an easy way for you to opt-out of: Information that identifies you being used or shared for medical research purposes and quality checking or audit purposes.

Right to access and correct	Please contact the practice if you wish to opt-out. This is now being progressively replaced by the national opt out scheme. • You have the right to access your medical record and have any errors or mistakes corrected. Please speak to a member of staff or look at our 'subject access request' policy on the practice using the online patient access. Please visit www.nhs.uk . You can also use NHS app. • We are not aware of any circumstances in which you will have the right to delete correct information from your medical record; although you are free to obtain your own legal advice if you believe there is no lawful purpose for which we hold the information and contact us if you hold a different view.
Retention period	GP medical records will be kept in line with the law and national guidance. Information on how long records are kept can be found at: https://digital.nhs.uk/article/1202/Records-Management-Code-of-Practice-for-Health-and-Social-Care-2016 or speak to the practice.
Right to complain	You have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. If you wish to complain follow this link https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/ or call the helpline 0303 123 1113