

# Patient Information System Expansion

What does it mean for you?



## Introduction

NHS Lanarkshire records and stores medical information about patients within a safe electronic patient information system.

Authorised healthcare staff access your information if you are admitted to hospital so that they are able to see your medical history to enable them to provide safe and effective person-centred care.

Healthcare staff providing urgent, or unplanned care – for example in accident and emergency – do not currently have access to your medical records held by your GP practice unless your GP has written to them.

## What is happening?

NHS Lanarkshire is making changes so that authorised healthcare staff can access a summary of important known medical conditions recorded in your GP record.

The expanded system with the GP summary, will give authorised healthcare staff access to known essential recorded information such as:

- ❖ your current medication
- ❖ allergies or reactions you may have to certain medications
- ❖ immunisations
- ❖ some clinical measurements, e.g. blood pressure.

## **Who will have access to my GP summary?**

Only authorised healthcare staff directly involved in your care will have access to the summary information.

## **What information will the GP summary include?**

Only known essential information will be available. This will not include highly sensitive, personal or lifestyle information.

### **How do I know that the information in my GP summary is secure?**

- ❖ NHS Lanarkshire stores your electronic information using the highest standards of security.
- ❖ Only staff directly involved in your care will be allowed to look at your GP summary.
- ❖ Staff can only look at your GP summary if they have a password that allows them to.
- ❖ Systems will be in place to monitor who has looked at the GP summary.

## **Does my GP know about this?**

Yes. All Lanarkshire GPs have been contacted and have agreed to share this information as they are aware of the benefits of the expanded system to patients.

## **Is there anything I need to do?**

If you are happy for your GP to allow authorised healthcare staff to view your GP summary, you do not need to do anything.

If you don't want your summary shared, please contact your GP Practice.

Healthcare staff may ask for your permission to view your GP summary when attending arranged hospital appointments. You do not have to agree to this.

