

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

Medical research

Chacewater and Devoran Surgeries share 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;
- however, we do not routinely 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.

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

Checking the quality of care - national clinical audits

Chacewater and Devoran Surgeries contribute 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 are sent to 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: <https://www.hqip.org.uk/> or phone 020 7997 7370.
- 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.

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	Chacewater and Devoran Surgeries, Chacewater, Truro TR4 8QS Tel: 01872 562200 Letters.chacewater@nhs.net
Data Protection Officer contact details	Maria Harvey Tel: 01872 221108 Maria.harvey7@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	<p>The following sections of the GDPR mean that we can use medical records for research and to check the quality of care (national clinical audits)</p> <p>Article 6(1)(e) – ‘processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller’</p> <p>For medical research: Article 9(2)(a) – ‘the data subject has given explicit consent to the processing of those personal data for one or more specified purposes, except where Union or Member State law provide that the prohibition referred to in paragraph 1 may not be lifted by the data subject’</p> <p>To check the quality of care (clinical audit): Article 9(2)(h) – ‘processing is necessary for the purposes of preventive or occupational medicine, for the assessment of the working capacity of the employee, medical diagnosis, the provision of health or social care or treatment or the management of health or social care systems and services on the basis of Union or Member State law or pursuant to contract with a health professional and subject to the conditions and safeguards referred to in paragraph 3’</p>
Recipient or categories of recipients of the processed data	<p>For medical research the data will be shared with the Clinical Practice Research Database (CPRD).</p> <p>For national clinical audits which check the quality of care the data will be shared with NHS Digital.</p>
Rights to object and the national data opt-out	<p>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:</p> <p>information that identifies you being used or shared for medical research purposes and quality checking or audit purposes.</p> <p>To opt-out of your identifiable information being shared for medical research or to find out more about your opt-out choices please go to NHS Digital’s website: https://digital.nhs.uk/services/national-data-opt-out-programme</p>

Right to access and correct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 website – www.chacewatersurgery.co.uk 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	<p>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.</p>
Right to complain	<p>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</p>