

Cofnod Meddyg Teulu Cymru Welsh GP Record



Health information: there when it's needed



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THE WELSH GP RECORD AND HOW IT'S USED

NHS Wales provides a safe electronic system that allows the people caring for you to see a **summary** of key health information held in the full GP record. This will help them treat you better, safer, and quicker.

This summary is called the **Welsh GP Record (WGPR)**. Unlike other health records, such as the full GP record or hospital record, WGPR is available across a range of healthcare settings allowing certain healthcare professionals, usually with your permission, instant access to the most important health information about the patient they are treating.

HOW DOES THE WGPR HELP PATIENTS?

Patients can feel reassured that where necessary healthcare professionals will be able to access a summary of their health history no matter where they are in Wales and no matter what time of day or night it may be. This means, for example, you won't have to remember and repeat important information such as prescribed medication and recent test results, as it will be available to the people delivering your direct healthcare at the time it's most needed.

It improves patient safety and quality of care through quicker access to information about your current medication, your medical history, allergies, etc.

WHY DO WE NEED THE WGPR?

Whenever you receive care or treatment in NHS Wales information is stored about you, usually on a computer, but not all computers are connected to each other. For example, the person treating when you are admitted to hospital or attending an outpatient's appointment, cannot see your medical history held in the full GP record.

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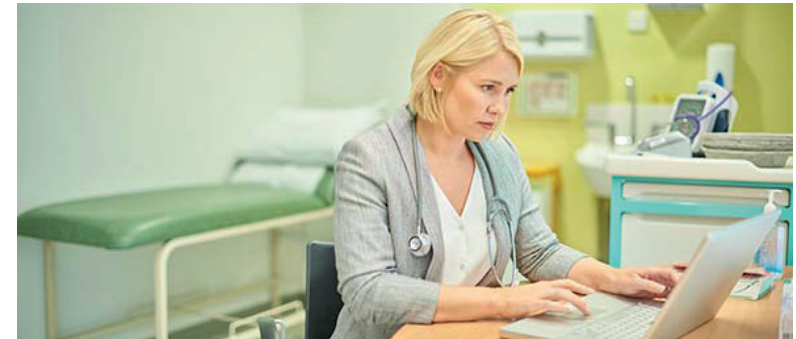
WHAT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE WGPR?

A summary of important health information held in the full GP record, for example:

- Your name, address and contact details
- Current medication and medication you have been prescribed in the last two years
- Allergies or any adverse reactions to medication
- Current or past health problems or diagnosis
- Results of any recent tests you have had in the previous year, for example, blood tests and x-rays
- Operations, vaccinations and immunisations
- Registered GP

It does not include, for example:

- Private discussions you may have had with your GP
- Family or social history
- Contraception or pregnancy related information
- Sensitive health information



WHO CAN LOOK AT INFORMATION THROUGH THE WGPR?

Certain health professionals providing direct care to a patient can access a summary of the information they need to do their job. These may include:

- Doctors and nurses working in hospital who are directly involved in your care, such as those in the Accident and Emergency (A&E), Medical Assessment Units (MAU), and Outpatient departments
- Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians working in the hospital where you are being treated
- First Responders and advanced Paramedics in the ambulance service who are directly involved in your care
- Doctors and nurses working in the GP Out of Hours service who are directly involved in your care
- Community Pharmacists providing a one-to-one consultation to you through the Choose Pharmacy Service
- Vaccinators who administer COVID-19 vaccinations through the Welsh Immunisation System (WIS) – Vaccinator access is limited to only view prescribed medication and allergies/adverse reactions to medication through WGPR

HOW IS INFORMATION ACCESSED THROUGH THE WGPR KEPT SECURE?

Strict controls are in place to keep patient information safe. Only the people caring for you will be able to look at the health information about you through the WGPR and usually with your permission. Checks are regularly made to ensure no one is looking at the summary information when they shouldn't be.

I'M NOT SURE IF I WANT INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE WGPR?

The health professional will usually ask for your permission before looking at the information held about you, you can at this point simply say 'no'.

If you want to prevent all health professionals, outside of your GP practice, being able to access the information through WGPR, then you will need to tell your GP practice that you want to 'Opt out of WGPR'. However, before deciding it is important to discuss your concerns with the practice as it could make a big difference to the care you receive, especially in an emergency.

Further information can also be found at dhcw.nhs.wales/welsh-gp-record/