

Informing Shared Clinical Care – June 2009

NHS Connecting for Health Statement

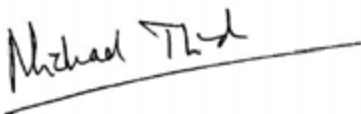
NHS Connecting for Health has been pleased to commission the Royal College of General Practitioners to produce this Shared Record Professional Guidance report. We thank the Royal College of General Practitioners for co-ordinating the involvement of other professional and patient stakeholder groups in order to achieve a wide agreement on principles.

This work continues the collaboration between NHS Connecting for Health, professional organisations clinicians and patients to develop and refine clinical record keeping standards that are appropriate for shared electronic records. It provides a significant opportunity for individual professional groups to revise and align existing guidance in the light of endorsed and shared principles.

This report will provide key points of reference and principal as we move into a 'new world' of patient centred records, structured and governed to enhance quality and preserve meaning in a multi-disciplinary context. It also serves to highlight the continuing challenges presented by the quality of existing evidence about current and future models for improving clinical communication, and the level of understanding and consent by clinicians and patients to 'record sharing'. We recognise that no single report can be expected to provide all the answers to such wide ranging and challenging questions, or to be equally accessible and relevant to all professional and patient groups. However by informing the ongoing debate with a literature review, structured questionnaires and scenario analysis, it can make a significant contribution. Confronting the issues around 'sharing' head on is the only way to achieve high quality, patient centred electronic clinical records.

This report will be assessed by NHS Connecting for Health Clinical Safety for potential implications, and this and future updated professional guidance will contribute to revised requirements for system design and delivery.

If you have any press queries on the report please contact nhscfh.pressoffice@nhs.net



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