The Local Care Record in Southwark and Lambeth

sharing electronic patient records safely and quickly
connecting local hospitals and GPs
improving care and experience for patients

The Local Care Record is an improved and secure way of sharing patient information electronically between local hospitals and GP practices in Southwark and Lambeth.

It links the electronic patient record systems at Guy's and St Thomas’, King's College Hospital and South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trusts with all GP practices across the two boroughs.

The new system was developed by clinicians with input from local patient groups. It allows healthcare professionals to see all relevant information before making clinical decisions, making treatment for physical and mental healthcare safer and quicker.

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kingshealthpartners.org/localcarerecord

"The Local Care Record has made communication across the various disciplines significantly easier. It helps us have a much broader knowledge of all a person's co-morbidities and the impact that they may have on their cognitive functioning. It is an invaluable resource that has improved the quality of mental health care for my patients.”

Mental health hospital clinician

"It’s a more accurate record of the patient journey than hospital letters, and easier to keep track of appointments and follow up information.”

Acute hospital clinician

"It may be the first properly brilliant IT function we have ever had in our practice with immediate, tangible benefits. We can see letters, tests results and appointments from the hospitals and it’s making our lives a lot easier!”

Local GP

"Literally changing our day to day lives.”

Local GP

“We currently have to contact GPs to get test results. This generally involves a number of phone calls or emails.

The Local Care Record removes these email exchanges/phone-calls completely and makes our team much more efficient.

This means we can be much more responsive to patients’ needs and to the medical teams who are unsure about what line of treatment to follow:"

Acute hospital clinician

"Many people think that the hospital and GPs are able to see each other’s information already – but this hasn’t been possible before.

So this is a welcome step towards safer, better and more joined-up care, which has been designed with local people for local patients.”

Southwark and Lambeth Citizens Board member

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Acute hospital clinician

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Mental health hospital clinician

Further Information
To find out more about the Local Care Record visit kingshealthpartners.org/localcarerecord to view a short film, patient information leaflets and frequently asked questions.

Participating organisations
Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust
King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (including the Princess Royal Hospital)
South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
Lambeth and Southwark GP Practices

Supported by
NHS Lambeth and Southwark Clinical Commissioning Groups
Southwark and Lambeth Integrated Care
Guy’s and St Thomas’ Charity
King’s Health Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre
NHS England Technology Fund
Building on King’s Health Partners Online (which links the three NHS Foundation Trusts’ electronic patient record systems), local partners agree to expand the system to link local hospitals and GP practices. Funding is awarded from NHS England’s Technology Fund and the Southwark and Lambeth Integrated Care programme.

Local Care Record team is formed and arrangements are made for local governance. The wider team includes GPs, Chief Clinical Information Officers, Caldicott Guardians, information governance leads, communications teams and citizen engagement representatives.

Primary care engagement begins with team leads visiting GP practices to demonstrate benefits of new system. The first 10 practices sign up to a new Data Sharing Agreement as “early adopters”.

Funding is awarded from NHS England’s Technology Fund and the Southwark and Lambeth Integrated Care programme.

Continued engagement with citizens, GPs, practice managers and GP federations. More and more practices sign the data sharing agreement in readiness for the new system going live.

First citizens’ engagement event is hosted with local clinicians helping to explain the new system.

First stage testing of patient information exchange between a GP practice and the hospital trusts is successful.

2015
- March: The Local Care Record: from conception to implementation
- April - May: Local Care Record team is formed and arrangements are made for local governance. The wider team includes GPs, Chief Clinical Information Officers, Caldicott Guardians, information governance leads, communications teams and citizen engagement representatives.
- July: Primary care engagement begins with team leads visiting GP practices to demonstrate benefits of new system. The first 10 practices sign up to a new Data Sharing Agreement as “early adopters”.
- August: First citizens’ engagement event is hosted with local clinicians helping to explain the new system.

2016
- January: Roll out to the small number of “pilot sites” to help further test the system, raise user issues, identify benefits, and help with resolving any arising problems.
- March: Awareness of the new system increases as digitalhealth.net publishes in-depth feature article on project journey and technical architecture (www.digitalhealth.net/integration/47505/doing-the-lambeth-work-local-record-project-reaches-gps)
- April: Roll out continues and the final GP practice, (number 91) goes live on the 27 April.
- May / June: 1,300 primary care and 3,500 secondary care users now using Local Care Record, with 48,000 patients’ shared records viewed in June 2016.

Continued engagement with local partners, social care, community services and other boroughs to increase usage and explore opportunities for expanding system further.