Your rights to see your health records

You have a right to ask to see your health records. This includes information held on our computers and our manual systems. To see this information, you need to make a ‘subject access request’.

To do this you will need to contact our Information Governance Department.

Under the Data Protection Act 1998 we are entitled to charge an administration fee of £10 for processing your application. We may make further charges for providing hard copies of information such as X-ray films (up to £50). You must make your request in writing to us and provide suitable identification and the appropriate fee. Legally we then have to process your request.

We have a responsibility to make sure that we keep personal information safe and not to reveal it to unauthorised people.

Contacting us

If you need more information, please contact us.

Information Governance Department
Alliance Medical Ltd
Iceni Centre
Warwick Technology Park
Warwick
CV34 6DA

tel 01926 482 000
visit www.alliancemedical.co.uk
email customercare@alliance.co.uk

This leaflet explains:

- What information we collect about you.
- Why we collect information.
- The ways in which we use the information.
- Your right to apply for the information we hold about you.
Personal information

During your visit to one of our imaging centres, we will ask you for personal information. We will use this information so that we can give you the correct care and treatment. We may use information about you for other reasons such as to:

- Help staff to review the care they provide to make sure it is of the highest standard.
- Review our planning and services so that we meet patients’ needs.
- Prepare statistics and ‘performance’ figures.
- Train and educate staff.

Whenever possible we will remove details that identify you. Your health records include information on your physical or mental health. They are made by or on behalf of a health professional in connection with your care.

Health records can include:

- Hand-written clinical notes.
- Letters to and from other health professionals.
- Images such as scans or X-rays, and;
- Recordings of phone conversations.

We will send a copy of relevant records we produce during your visit to the doctor who referred you. You should contact them if you have any questions about your treatment.

DIDS

Information from your diagnostic test will contribute to the Diagnostic Imaging Dataset.

The Diagnostic Imaging Dataset (DID) is a database that holds information on the imaging tests and scans carried out on NHS patients. This will allow the Health and Social Care Information Centre to see how different tests are used across the country.

Nothing will ever be reported that identifies you. All information is stored securely. It is only made available to appropriate staff, and is kept strictly confidential. However, if you do not want your information to be stored in the DID, please tell the people who are treating you. Please contact the Health and Social Care Information Centre directly, their contact details are:

Telephone: 0845 300 6016  Email: enquiries@ic.nhs.uk  Website: www.ic.nhs.uk

Data protection

We are committed to protecting your personal information. We take great care to make sure that we keep your information confidential and safe. All staff have signed a confidentiality agreement and are aware of their duty to keep information about you confidential in line with the Data Protection Act 1998.

The law strictly controls the way we can share some types of personal information, including your health records and other sensitive personal information.

We carry out training to keep our staff up-to-date with the law and best practice.

Everyone working in the health-care sector has a legal duty to keep information about you confidential and secure. However, we may need to share some information about you for your benefit, for example, to:

- Allow you to be well cared for by other health-related organisations; and
- Investigate complaints and legal claims.

We will only ever use or pass on information about you if others involved in your care have a genuine need for it. We will also make sure it is kept confidential and secure. We will not reveal your information to anyone else without your permission unless there are exceptional circumstances, such as when the health or safety of others is at risk or if the law says we must pass on the information.

Anyone who receives information from us is also under a legal duty to keep it confidential and secure.

Transferring information

To analyse your images and produce a report for the doctor who referred you we may need to transfer your information outside of England to elsewhere within the European Economic Area (EEA), for example, Scotland or Spain. If we need to send your information outside of the EEA, we must have your permission.