

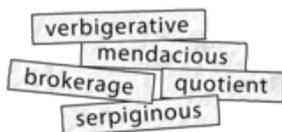
What is this leaflet about?



This leaflet will tell you about some improvements the NHS in Scotland is making to the way it uses the information your doctor has about you.



This leaflet will tell you about the improvements and why they are happening.



Words written in **bold** are explained in the booklet.

What information does my doctor's surgery have?



Your doctor's surgery has a **patient record** for you and all their patients. This is a computer file and includes the information listed below.



Your date of birth



What vaccinations (jags) you have had

What else is in my patient record?



What health problems you have



What medicine you take.



What appointments and treatments you have had at hospitals.

What will happen to the information in my patient record?



At the moment, only your doctor uses this information.



The NHS will use some of the information doctors' surgeries have.



By looking at some of this information, your doctor and the NHS will be able to do lots of things.

What will your information be used for?



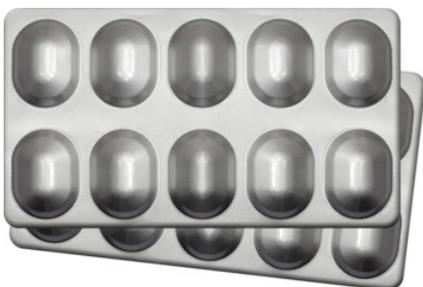
Research that will help to find new treatments and help to spot when people are ill.



To make health care better for people who need extra help.

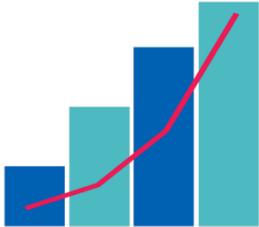


To find out how many people are taking different medicines or getting vaccinations (jags).



To help find new ways to treat illnesses

More about what your information will be used for.



To look at changes over time. This could include checking to see if more people are getting diabetes or cancer than in the past.



Plan care for people who have a health problem.



Plan for health emergencies, like when lots of people get the flu or a virus.



Some of the information doctors' surgeries have will be sent to the NHS to let them do this.



It is important that this information is shared safely.

How will the information be used by your surgery and shared with the NHS?



A new service called **SPIRE** will work on this.

SPIRE stands for **Scottish Primary Care Information Resource**.

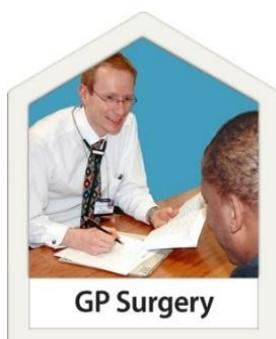


Primary Care means your own doctor or nurse that you see about most health problems.



SPIRE will be able to safely use information from doctors' surgeries across Scotland.

More about how the information will be shared with the NHS.



They will collect some of the information that is in your patient record.

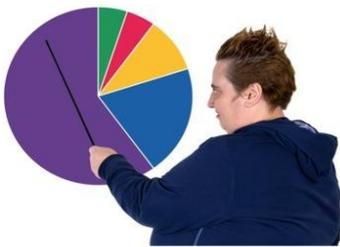


This information will be safely looked after by **NHS National Services Scotland**.

Who will use your information?



NHS National Services Scotland employs people to look at information to tell them what it says about Scotland. These people are called **analysts**.



An **analyst's** job is to take the information and make sense of it.



They use the information to look at how many people have an illness and to plan what to do to help.

Who will use your information?



Your local health board might want to ask to use the information to find out what is happening in your local area.



Other organisations who are interested in Scotland's health might want to use the information.



These organisations will have to ask a special group if they are allowed to do this. The group will only say yes if people will benefit from this and the information is kept secure.



No one else will be able to use the information.



Your information will not be sold.



You can talk to your doctor's surgery or fill in the form at the back of this booklet.



Tell them that you want to 'opt out of **SPIRE**'

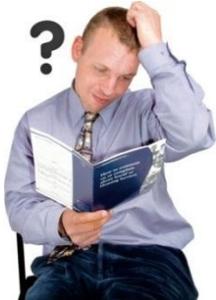


Once you've made your decision, it is ok to change your mind. You can do this at any time, just let your doctor's surgery know.



You will still get the same care from your doctor if you don't want to be part of **SPIRE**.

Where can I get more information?



If you have any questions or would like to find out more about **SPIRE** you can:



Speak to staff at your doctor's surgery



Call 0800 22 44 88 to speak to someone at NHS Inform



Find a list of questions and answers by visiting the **SPIRE** website.



The website address is www.spire.scot

If you do not want your health information to be used by **SPIRE** fill in this form.

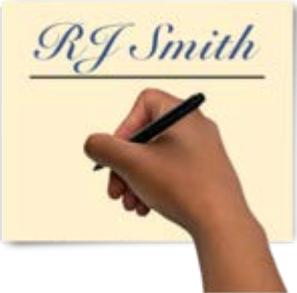
Write your answers on this side.



Please put a cross in the box if you do not want your information to be used by **SPIRE**.



Write your name

	<p>Write your date of birth</p>	
	<p>Write your address</p>	
	<p>Write your postcode</p>	
	<p>Please sign your name</p>	
<p>Please give your filled in form to staff at your doctor's surgery.</p>		