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**VILLAGE SURGERY**

**The Village Community Medical Centre**

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Dear New Patient

NHS Summary Care Record

Our Practice offers patients the choice of having a Summary Care Record, which has been introduced nationally, to help deliver better and safer health care, and give you more choice about who you share your healthcare information with.

**What is the NHS Summary Care Record?**

The Summary Care Record will contain basic information about any **allergies you may have, unexpected reactions to medications and any prescriptions you have recently received.** The intention is to help clinicians in Accident and Emergency departments and ‘Out of Hours’ health services to give safe, timely and effective treatment.

Clinicians will only be allowed to access your record if they are authorised to and even then only if you give your express permission. You will be asked if healthcare staff can look at your Summary Care Record every time they need to unless it is an emergency; for instance, if you are unconscious. You can refuse if you think access is unnecessary.

**Children under 16 years of age**

Children under 16 years will have a Summary Care Record created for them unless their GP Surgery is advised otherwise. **If you are the Parent or Guardian of a child then please either make this information available to them or decide and act on their behalf.**

You do not have to have a Summary Care Record, although you are strongly recommended to consider this choice. If you decide to proceed, but at any time in the future you, or a child you are responsible for, change your mind and choose not to have a Summary Care Record, all you need to do is write to our Practice Manager, Verity Shelton, informing her of your decision to ‘opt out’.

Yours Faithfully

Village Surgery