

Important information about Security

PatientView makes it easier for you to get test results and other information about medical conditions and treatments. We hope and expect that it will be very helpful. However it is important to think about any possible risks of making your information available in this way.

Privacy and security

To protect your information, we use two methods:

- Every time any information is sent across the Internet, it is encrypted. It is almost impossible to break encryption if the data is intercepted.
- Everyone using the system will have their own username and password. The first time you use the system, you will be asked to change your password, so that only you know it. It is important to keep your password safe, but you can choose to share your password with other people that you trust. You can change your password at any time if you think someone else may have discovered it.

To make more secure you can also choose to add a secret word. If you do that you will be asked to put in some letters from the word as well.

Together, these create a very safe system. The same kind of system is used to make Internet shopping and banking safe. However it might be possible for a determined 'spy' to break into the system and to find your information. They might, for instance, learn your password. If this worries you a lot, you should not join in.

Remember:

- The system will only show *some* of the information that is in your notes and in the computer system in your local unit.
- Your GP will also be able to see your information. So will some staff from your unit (they can already see it on hospital computers).
- None of your information goes onto the Internet unless you sign up for *PatientView*.
- You can choose to leave at any time, and your information will be removed.
- All units do their best to be sure that all of the information they hold is accurate. But if you spot any errors, you can ask for changes to be made.

Note: If sent by post your username and password may take up to a week to reach you. *Contact us if it does not arrive.*

Any questions?

With this information sheet you should have received other information about *PatientView* and what it can do. If you have any more questions, here are some people to contact:

<p>In each local unit that is involved in this project, a local consultant and a computer expert can answer questions about your information and about passwords, etc. For your unit, these people are:</p>	
<p>Professor Neil Turner, Edinburgh 0131 242 9167, neil.turner@ed.ac.uk</p>	<p>Dr Richard Phelps, Edinburgh 0131 242 9164, richard.phelps@ed.ac.uk</p>
<p>You can also put questions about the system to some of the people who are steering the project:</p>	
<p>Dr Martin Denvir (Consultant in Cardiology) 0131 242 1923, martin.denvir@ed.ac.uk</p>	<p>Janet Reid, Specialist Nurse 0131 242 1863, janet.reid@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk</p>

You should keep this page in case you have questions later