



# Your electronic medical record

**At Alfred Health our updated clinical information system means that our patient records are now electronic. Your doctors, nurses and the rest of the team caring for you have up-to-date medical information safely in one place. This helps us deliver expert patient care.**

### Using the latest technology



Staff use portable computers and mobile devices, such as tablets, laptops and smartphones, to enter your information directly into your electronic medical record.

We've also changed the way we check your identity – such as when we take your blood or provide your medications. Staff can now scan your patient wristband to confirm your identity and find your details. This adds an extra layer of safety to our practice.

### Improved patient safety



The benefit of having an electronic medical record is that all your information – including medical alerts, allergies and prescriptions – is stored in one place. Staff can more easily access everything they need to know about you.

### Keeping your information private



Data security is a top priority at Alfred Health and we consistently meet all government requirements on data storage, which ensures your information stays private. Only trained Alfred Health staff can access this secure system – the same as with paper records.

### Benefits for you



We know that having patient information in one place is safer. With electronic records it is easy for our staff to have access to your information as they care for you. Electronic records have real benefits for patients.

These include:

- improved medication safety with all your prescriptions and allergies listed in one place.
- electronic alerts to support your team.
- better access to patient information for your team any time it is needed.

### Frequently asked questions



#### Why did you change from paper to electronic records?

Keeping patient information in one secure system makes it easier for doctors, nurses and the rest of your health care team to provide you with the best care.

Benefits include:

- improved medication safety with all your prescriptions and allergies listed in one place.
- electronic alerts to support your team.
- better access to patient information for your team any time it is needed.

#### I've opted out of the My Health Record system - is this the same thing?

No – *My Health Record* is the Federal Government's overarching digital health record platform.

Our clinical information system that holds patient records is only for Alfred Health staff to use.

It's about taking the information your doctor or nurse would traditionally have recorded on charts and entering it directly into your record to guide your care in hospital.

#### Will I be able to access my record?

We are also developing a 'patient portal' so that patients can access key parts of their own clinical record so you can become more involved in your own care.

This is in early days of development and its implementation is a couple of years away.

#### Does this mean that you will send my discharge summary to my GP or specialist electronically?

We currently provide discharge summaries to external health providers – including the GP you will have nominated at the time of your admission. We will continue to do so. This system will make it easier to share that information electronically with patients' existing specialists and GPs.

#### Is there infection risk if this computer is being used across many different patients?

There are infection prevention procedures in place, the same as with any shared hospital equipment. Staff sanitise their hands (hand hygiene) and wipe down screens between patients.



For more information about your electronic medical record speak with a member of your treatment team or visit [alfredhealth.org.au](http://alfredhealth.org.au)

### More information



#### How can I access information about me?

Through the Freedom of Information Act 1982, (Vic) you have the right to request access to your medical record and personal information held by Alfred Health. If there is information in the record that is incorrect or you do not agree with, you can request for it to be corrected.

#### To make a request contact:

Freedom of Information Officer  
Alfred Health  
(03) 9076 5149  
[legalsupportservices@alfred.org.au](mailto:legalsupportservices@alfred.org.au)  
*A fee is charged for FOI requests*

#### Interpreters

Qualified interpreters are available to assist either via phone or in person. Let your healthcare professional know if you will need an interpreter.

#### Alfred Health Health Information Services

55 Commercial Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004  
PO Box 315 Prahran, VIC 3181  
(03) 9076 2644  
[alfredhealth.org.au](http://alfredhealth.org.au)