

BMA/NHSE Joint Statement on SCR Roll Out

4 May 2010

Connecting for Health (CfH) and BMA have agreed that the upload of information to the Summary Care Record (SCR) should only take place in any practice once the practice and the primary care trust (PCT) agree that patients have been adequately informed about the process and properly enabled to opt out should they wish. Practices must be fully supported and informed to upload data. Practices and PCTs must be satisfied that data are of an appropriate quality for sharing.

This will apply both to areas which were working to implement the SCR prior to the 'accelerated roll out' but have yet to upload patient data, as well as those practices in areas deemed to be "accelerated" and this status should not preclude uploads where agreement about adequate information has been reached.

CfH have agreed that they will continue to work with stakeholders including the BMA to improve the nationally available examples and templates for PCTs and practices to support public awareness, and practice and professional involvement. They have also agreed that the BMA and CfH will work jointly on what, within the constraints of current policy, constitutes an appropriate local campaign of public and professional awareness and practice support, in order to assist practices and PCTs in making decisions on whether local arrangements for public and professional information is sufficient.

Strategic health authorities (SHAs) are expected to ensure that their PCTs understand and implement appropriate communications arrangements.