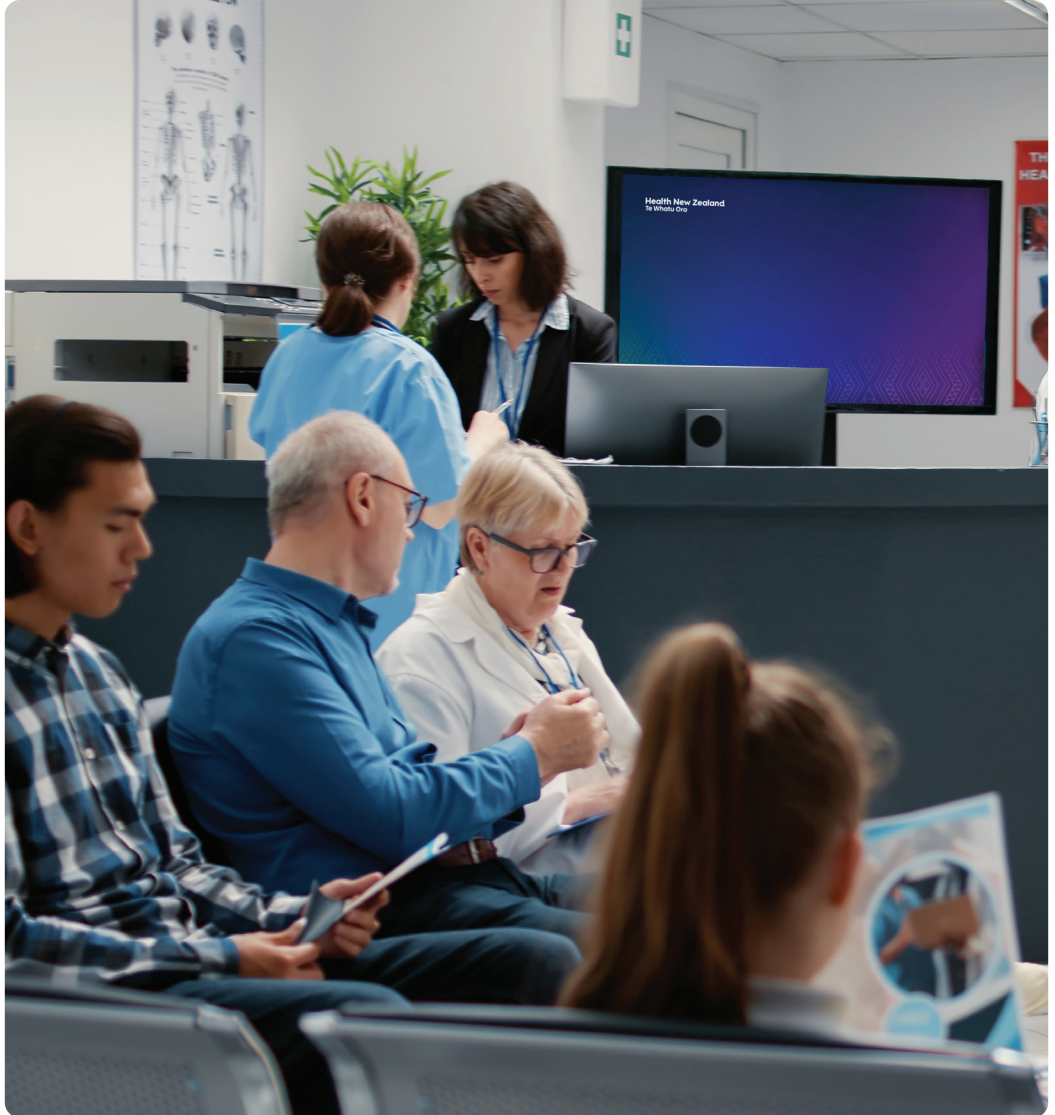


Your health information where and when it's needed



Expanded health information, better care

We're expanding the information available to your doctors and other healthcare providers, no matter where you are in Aotearoa New Zealand. This will help them give you the best treatment and care, where and when you need it.

- We're doing this through a new health information connector called the Shared Digital Health Record.
- Lets healthcare providers see your important health information so they can give you the best care, including in urgent situations when you're away from home.
- Your important health information is already shared in some regions – we're making it available nationwide.
- Includes information like allergies, medical conditions and vital signs.
- You can choose to block some or all of your information from being shared.
- There are strong privacy and security controls in place to protect your health information and to monitor who accesses it. Find out more at <http://info.health.nz/SDHR>.





Information to be shared

The health information we collect and share will include:

- Your allergies and intolerances – for example, an allergy to penicillin.
- Your medical conditions, such as asthma, diabetes and long-term conditions.
- Your vital signs like your temperature, heart rate and blood pressure.

Other information, such as details of your health appointments and prescribed medicines, may be shared in the future. See the Health NZ website for updates (<https://info.health.nz/SDHR>).

The Shared Digital Health Record will collect and share health information held in your general practice's IT system. Other health information – such as immunisations and medicines – will be accessed from national databases if shared in the future.

You don't need to do anything if you're happy for your health information to be shared.

You can also choose to limit or block your information from being shared. No matter what you decide, you'll still receive healthcare.

Your choices and what you need to do

● Share my info

I want my health providers to see my health information.

I'm happy for my health info to be shared through the Shared Digital Health Record. It means my healthcare team have what they need to support me safely and quickly.



Patient action: Do nothing

● Mark private

Some things are sensitive, I'd like to keep these private.

I'm okay sharing my health info through the Shared Digital Health Record, but would like to keep some info between me and my general practice or other healthcare clinic*. I understand this might limit what's available to others involved in my healthcare.



Patient action: Talk to your healthcare provider

*Please check with your health provider about which individual records can be made confidential.

● Only this healthcare provider

"I don't want my health information collected by this provider shared with other providers.

I want to keep my health info between me and my general practice or other healthcare clinic, so I'm choosing not to share it through the Shared Digital Health Record. I understand this could mean other healthcare services don't have all my health information.



Patient action: Talk to your healthcare provider

● Block any sharing

I don't want any of my health information shared through the Shared Digital Health Record.

I'm choosing to completely opt out of sharing my health info through the Shared Digital Health Record. This means that in an emergency, the people treating me may not know my health info unless I'm able to tell them. I understand this may impact the care I receive.



Patient action: Contact Health NZ

How information sharing helps



Travelling for work

Currently: A woman from Wellington visits Auckland for work. At a meeting she begins to slur her speech so she's taken to hospital with a suspected stroke. Because she is from Wellington, doctors in the hospital in Auckland cannot access her medical information.

With shared health information: Auckland hospital staff can access her medical history. They see she has a history of migraines with speech loss. They are able to treat her quickly, knowing this important information.

How information sharing helps



Visiting whānau

Currently: An 80 year old man from Hamilton is visiting his grandchildren in Christchurch and falls over and breaks his hip. He is allergic to a pain killer but can't remember which one. The ambulance crew can't access his health information to check.

With shared health information: Ambulance crew access the man's health information and see which medication he's allergic to. He is given alternative pain relief safely and without delay.



Festival goer

Currently: An ambulance crew at a Gisborne festival treats a fainting festival goer from Christchurch who is unable to communicate. They treat him for suspected heat exhaustion, unaware he has a heart condition.

With shared health information: The person's heart condition is noted in his shared health information. He is taken to hospital urgently and receives the correct treatment and care.



Seasonal worker

Currently: A fruit picker from Whangārei has an asthma attack and visits a Nelson urgent care centre. The doctor cannot access her health information and treats her for worsening asthma symptoms.

With shared health information: The Nelson doctor can see the woman has previously had problems with specific agricultural chemicals. She has recently been exposed to these chemicals. Because they have this information, the doctor gives her different treatment and care.

When information sharing will start

Your important health information will be available to other healthcare providers involved in your care from around mid-2026.

Questions? We can help

- If you have questions about the collection of your health information through the Shared Digital Health Record, talk to your healthcare provider, call us on **0800 144 751** or email customerservice@health.govt.nz
- You can also call or email to:
 - opt out of or back in to the Shared Digital Health Record
 - request a copy of your information in the Shared Digital Health Record
- If you have a privacy question or complaint, contact customerservice@health.govt.nz

Scan the QR code or visit the Health NZ website (<https://info.health.nz/SDHR>) for more information about the Shared Digital Health Record, including your privacy and security.



Are you aged 12 to 15?

If you don't want to share some or all of your information – or want to start sharing again – talk to your parent or guardian, or your GP. If you would like to opt out of information sharing completely, call us on 0800 144 751 or email customerservice@health.govt.nz.

Data collections for planning and performance

Health NZ also collects some information from general practices to help us plan services, check how well things are working, and support better health for everyone.

We follow strict privacy rules, and we never publish anything that identifies you. Most of the time, your information is linked to a number, not your name or address.

After we collect the information, we group it together to create a picture of what's happening in your area. For example, we might look at the percentage of people who receive certain types of care.

Our systems are safe and secure. Anyone who uses this data must follow strict rules. We store your information in a secure cloud system that has strong protections, including encryption, controlled access, and constant monitoring.

Some of the information we collect includes:

- how long it takes to get a GP appointment
- how many people in your community are enrolled or immunised
- whether a GP or nurse is providing your care
- blood tests, lab results, and cancer screening information that help us understand what health services people need.

See [\[weblink to come\]](#) for more about data collections for planning and performance, including the new National Primary Dataset.

