

D-CRIS PUBLIC AND PATIENT INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TEMPLATES

Special Note to This Version

This document is a one-off, standalone document, provided to the participant Trusts in the D-CRIS programme. It has been shared as an example of a PPI communications approach that has been used by SLAM.

This document is not intended for use un-edited.

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PUBLIC PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

What is D-CRIS

We have developed a computer system in partnership with a number of other NHS organisations. We call this system **D-CRIS**: the **Dementia Clinical Record Interactive Search**. It allows us to carry out research using information from your clinical records without revealing your personal details to researchers. **D-CRIS** is safe and secure. We believe it can make a real and positive difference to future treatments and care.

D-CRIS transforms clinical information in a way that the information does not identify you, in other words it is anonymous. The details of your clinical care and treatment can be used in research but your personal details cannot. The computer removes or covers up any information that can identify you. Your name, the name of your carer, your full date of birth, address, postcode and phone numbers are replaced with 'Z' like this:

11 December 2013

Mr ZZZZZ

ZZZZZ ZZZZZ

ZZZZZ W1N

Dear ZZZZZ

Re: Dementia Outpatients Clinic Management Group

I am writing to confirm that the next Dementia Outpatients Clinic Management Group will commence on Monday 15th January 2014 for 10 weeks.

D-CRIS has received ethical approval from an independent committee outside the Trust, as a safe, secure and confidential information source for research.

Who can access D-CRIS?

D-CRIS is available only to researchers who have a contract with the Trust. The information in **D-CRIS** is protected by strict information security standards. It cannot be accessed or taken outside the Trust in any form.

What sort of things will D-CRIS help with?

D-CRIS will help us to look at real life situations in large volumes. This means it's easier to see patterns and trends – e.g. what works for some and doesn't for others.

We may link information about your treatment and care in the Trust with other aspects of your health. This will help to improve your health as a whole. As an example, information about patients who had both mental health and cancer were linked to look at the impact of mental illness on cancer

survival rates. **D-CRIS** enables us to do this in a format that will not identify you. We will continue to seek the permission of independent organisations outside the Trust to assess our arrangements. This is to make sure that the security of your information and your confidentiality is always protected.

Here are a few of the things we've been looking at so far:

- [Trust to enter examples of studies that will/have utilised D-CRIS]
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How will D-CRIS affect individual care delivery right now?

We believe **D-CRIS** can make a real and positive difference to future treatments and care. However, the research made possible by **D-CRIS** is unlikely to impact directly on care right now.

What can I do if I want to find out more?

We are keen to share information about **D-CRIS** with patients, carers and staff. [Some information on local public patient involvement can be listed here. For example: We are holding a series of public meetings/open sessions to discuss **D-CRIS** with anyone who wants to know more].

Alternatively, if you have any questions or concerns, or if you would not like to be part of **D-CRIS**, please contact [a point of administration who will deal with such queries and opt-out requests]