

Integrated Care Record (ICR)

Using the ICR in the Emergency Department

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Context

"Being the consultant in charge in the Emergency Department (ED) means being more clinically involved with patients as well as supervising other doctors seeing the patients, having discussions about cases, formulating action plans and treatment as well as advising what the best treatment is."

What do you use the ICR for?

"We regularly access the shared record for medications and allergies. Patients will have an alert on their records, say they're allergic to something, but not always. And if a patient's got an alert, that's great. But if they haven't, that doesn't mean they're not allergic to something. It just means we don't know. Which is actually useful."

Resus Support

"Patients that come into our resus area where we need to make relatively quick decisions, quite often not based on a full medical history. It can be difficult to get that information quickly, and reliably. So we're having to make decisions and then and often giving medications and treatments based on incomplete information."

"Anything that we can access that gives us better knowledge about what medications that patient's on, what their medical problems are is massively useful to us. Having access to a shared record is massively useful"

Stroke Support

"In acute stroke presentations there is a need for time critical intervention in terms of thrombolysis clot busting drugs. We can't give those drugs until we know what the patient's already on. Are they on anticoagulants already? Having that information immediately, and it needs to be immediate, as we get those treatments in, sometimes within minutes of them arriving, is extremely useful. Just being able to access that information is a massive benefit."

Sepsis Treatment:

"We have a lot of patients who arrive needing immediate treatment for sepsis."

We quickly have to get intravenous fluids, intravenous antibiotics into the patient. And often we need to know whether that patient's got any allergies and need to make decisions relatively quickly, so that we can just get on and give that medication.

The ICR helps us with this by giving us valuable information enabling us to make these decisions quicker."

"I think the most used is the medications tile and the GP problems where you get quite a nice list of their current and previous medical history."