



**THE SPRINGS MEDICAL
PARTNERSHIP**

The Springs Medical Partnership

Change of Name/Gender Patient Information Leaflet

Patients are entitled to change the personal details on their medical records at any time by contacting their GP practice.

Why do we ask for proof of ID?

Your medical records contain private and important information about you. It's crucial that we keep this information accurate and up to date. We need to be very careful when updating records because there's a chance that someone might try to change them for malicious reasons. To keep your information, correct and secure, we'll need to confirm that it's really you before we make any changes to your details.

What personal details can be changed?

We can amend your title, name, preferred name, pronouns, gender marker, gender identity, and gender at birth. While we want to empower you to express your preferences, some limitations in our clinical system may affect how we capture this information. All changes to personal details must be approved by Primary Care Support England (PCSE).

Updating Your Title:

You have the right to change your title at any time. You can do this by providing a photo ID and proof of your name change, such as a deed poll or marriage certificate. We will update your records with an explanation to PCSE, who will then accept or reject the amendment.

Updating Your Name:

You can change your forename(s) and surname at any point upon providing proof of name change, such as a deed poll or marriage certificate.

Preferred Name/Pronouns:

You can add a preferred name and preferred pronouns to your record at any point by providing proof of ID. Due to the clinical system - this is only visible in specific parts of your health record, so a healthcare provider might not see it.

Preferred Gender Identity:

You can tell us your preferred gender identity at any time, and we will code it on your health record so that healthcare providers can see it. This doesn't change the assigned

gender we have on your record from birth (gender marker), but it helps us know what you prefer.

Your preferred gender identity is only visible in specific parts of your health record, so a healthcare provider might not see it. If we change the gender marker, all healthcare providers will always see your preferred gender identity, and there will be no misunderstanding.

Gender Markers:

The NHS primary care clinical systems only allow patients' gender markers to be recorded as 'M' for males or 'F' for females. This ensures that the appropriate screening invitations go correctly to individuals. It is not possible to set any other gender as the gender marker on your health record. You can, however, declare a specific gender identity, as above.

Due to the clinical system, some implications exist for patients who change their gender marker. If you want to change your gender marker, you will be given a new health record and assigned a new NHS number. You will now need to decide whether you want references to your previous gender identity within your new record.

If you would like a new health record that does not mention your previous gender, pronouns, or name, we can manually transfer your medical history from the old record and remove any references to your previous gender identity. However, if this involves removing medical conditions or symptoms from your record, such as a previous male complaining of pain in the testes, you will need to discuss this with a GP.

It's important to note that your medical history is crucial for healthcare providers when treating you. If a clinician is unaware of your past medical history, it could potentially impact your future health. Therefore, redacting medical history could affect the way any future health issues are treated.

If you change your gender marker, there's a possibility of missing out on public health screening reminders. Please refer to the attached leaflet: *NHS population screening: information for trans and non-binary people* - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/63a47f9d8fa8f5391dd96e8f/Screening_for_trans_and_non_binary_people_plain_A4_PDF.pdf

Decision:

You may wish to either:

1. Change Gender Marker: You can update your gender marker to Male or Female in your NHS records, but this comes with certain risks. You must then decide if you want to:
 - Add past medical history to the new health record, **not removing references to previous gender identity**. The only downside is that past medical history will reference your previous gender identity.
 - Add past medical history to the new health record and **remove references to your previous gender identity**. The downside is that past medical history can look 'messy' with redactions of the previous identity. If you had past problems that are associated with your previous gender identity, and you want them removed - removal must be discussed with a GP.