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Cartwright
LLP

Medical records – Your rights

Under the Data Protection Act 1998, every patient has a right to see his or her medical records and is also entitled to be sent copies of those records in an intelligible form. You do not need to specify a reason for requesting your records.

The cost varies depending on the number of records involved, but the maximum fee that can be imposed for sending copies is fixed at £50.00.

Relatives of a deceased patient may be entitled to obtain medical records under the Access to Health Records Act 1990. You will be informed of the charges relevant to disclosure of medical records in this case.

If you wish to obtain copies of your medical records, you need to write to the Health Service Provider involved. They are obliged to disclose the records to you within forty days, which is the time period specified by both the Data Protection Act and the Access to Health Records Act.

There are only very limited reasons that can be used to prevent a patient gaining access to their records. If you have any difficulties in obtaining your medical records, please contact us by going to the “Our People” section of our website.