

Archie

What is an EPR?

An Electronic Patient Record (EPR) is an electronic version of a patient's medical history that is maintained by an organisation over time, and may include all of the key administrative clinical data relevant to that person's care under an organisation, including demographics, clinical notes, activity, medication, vital signs, past medical history, diagnostic reports and scheduling.



It is not just another computer system?

EPR is more than a computer system. It will transform the way everyone works at QVH, making sense of busy, complex health services, analysing information in clever ways and helping to manage many every-day tasks. This system will not only help to treat patients more effectively by giving healthcare staff easier access to up-to-date information, it will also use this information to improve care, and give healthcare staff the tools needed to be safer and more efficient.

It would be easy to think of Archie EPR as simply a computer system that takes paper-based health records and stores them digitally. In reality, EPR will bring about a step-change in how healthcare staff works. The Trust cares for thousands of patients every day, with different and complex health conditions. Having up to date, accurate information, available to everyone, whenever they need it helps us to offer the best care we can and ensure that patients get the treatment they need.

Why we need an EPR

EPR goes beyond being a system for storing information. When patient records are stored on paper, the information can only be understood and analysed by staff reading through all of it every time they see a patient. EPR will be capable of taking this information and applying the knowledge, intelligence and experience of a much wider network. This means the system is capable of suggesting plans of care, supporting clinical decision-making and providing better accuracy.

Cont.

In addition to this, EPR will be a valuable tool in how we support the wider healthcare system. The Archie EPR programme work stream will at how this data can help to manage the flow of patients through our hospitals, helping them respond to increases in demand by identifying where beds are available (or where they might be available tomorrow) and offering insights into how services are used and where they could be more efficient. By drawing on best practice from across the NHS and beyond, EPR could give everyone working in local health services the tools they need to deliver safer, more efficient care.

Below are just some of the key reasons for the introduction of the solution here at QVH:

Clinician access to patient information

- The availability of an electronic full patient record will enable our staff to have rapid access to the right patient data at the right time wherever they are; ensuring that information and information technology supports staff in providing patients with the best possible care within the Trust.

A single version of the truth

- Currently data can be held on many different IT systems and on paper notes. There is a requirement to reduce duplication of data input and interrogation; improving data quality from both reliability and accuracy perspectives.

Deployment of supporting administrative and reporting systems

- The provision of a unified view across all Trust operations, combined with dashboard reporting that gives the ability to “drill down” into areas of interest will provide streamlined administration and reporting.

Reduce clinician’s administration requirements

- Provide IT solutions which support clinical staff to reduce data entry requirements and allow staff to spend more time with patients. This includes functionality such as decision support, system integration and process automation.

Paper-lite patient records

- Provide electronic data capture solutions, both hardware and software solutions, to reduce the paper record within the Trust. This will also be in line with our green agenda to reducing paper waste.