

SOUTH WEST PREVENTATIVE LIVER PATHWAY

This GP surgery works with specialists at the local acute trust to help find people at risk of liver problems. Minor changes in blood tests can predict future issues, so the teams in the local trust are using previous blood tests to improve treatment and help prevent liver disease.

What does this mean for you?

Normally a specialist would look at your blood tests when you are referred to their clinic. For this project however, information from your past blood tests will be looked at by a local hospital liver specialist even if you have not yet been referred, and if they think you could benefit from a review of your liver health, they will contact you. If you have opted out of your data being shared for 'Research and Planning' [known as the National Data Opt Out] we would still access your data to see if you need treatment for liver disease

In addition, your data may be used for research subject to permission from the regulators, however, if you have previously opted out of researchers using your data for research purposes by signing a 'National Data Opt Out' your information won't be used for these purposes.

Are there any potential benefits for you?

This project was set up to find people who are likely to develop liver disease. We know that the earlier liver disease is found and treated the more we can do to help.

Are there any risks for you?

Your identifiable blood test results and data will remain within the local NHS, and only NHS clinicians at your local trust can access it. There is a chance that this programme could detect signs of undiagnosed conditions, and this could be worrying – but we will make an early appointment to explain any issues to you.

What do you need to do?

No action is needed by you right now. If your GP refers you to a specialist you should go to see them anyway, and not just rely on this blood test review. If needed, your local trust will contact you.

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