



PEARL
PATIENT ELECTRONIC
& ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS LOG



BHB is introducing its first organisation-wide electronic medical record, PEARL, this year. It will help us improve quality and safety, every day. An electronic medical record includes your medical history, including test results, allergies, medications, etc. Clinicians also use it to make referrals, prescribe drugs and communicate with each other.

What is PEARL?

PEARL is the name chosen by BHB staff for our first organisation-wide electronic medical record. PEARL will be used across BHB, at King Edward VII Memorial Hospital (KEMH), the Mid-Atlantic Wellness Institute (MWI) and Lamb Foggo Urgent Care Centre (UCC). One patient, one record whichever service you use.

What will change when PEARL goes live?

When you come into any service at BHB, clinicians will be able to open your medical record on a computer, rather than having to wait for a paper record. They will know your medical history, what tests you've had and their results, what tests you are booked for and what allergies you have. If you need more tests or a referral to another area, this will all be done through PEARL - no paper or faxing like today; test results will be available faster through PEARL rather than waiting for reports.

What are the benefits of PEARL?

PEARL helps us deliver even safer, higher quality care. Information will be available to clinicians immediately. All your medical information from BHB will be in PEARL, so you will not have to repeat information. There will be built-in alerts and notifications that support the clinical team, helping them avoid duplicating tests, for example, and noting if you have a medication that may conflict with something you are already taking. Your clinician will see results as they are completed in the record - no looking for an email or fax.

Will I be able to see my own medical record?

This will be part of the second phase of the implementation, so the answer is yes, but not immediately after PEARL goes live. This is a big change for BHB staff, with all our processes and workflows adapting to an electronic medical record. Our first step is to ensure the system is working as we need it to and is stable. In September we will begin planning for the second phase that will include patient and external physician portals.

How will BHB ensure confidentiality?

Confidentiality can be carefully monitored within PEARL. Every individual who opens a patient's medical information can be traced, even if all they did is view the record.

How will my electronic medical record be kept safe?

BHB does all it can to keep its electronic information safe. This includes protecting its network with robust, proven technology, as well as mandatory staff training to recognise suspicious activity.

PEARL will go live starting 29 October 2022