

NHS Smartcards

A recent incident which is currently under investigation at a Pharmacy in the Yorkshire & Humber area has highlighted the need for everyone to ensure they are aware of the way in which staff use and can obtain new and replacement NHS Smartcards.

We would like to remind everyone that it is a serious offence to use an NHS Smartcard that does not belong to you or to permit others to use your card. Both could constitute a breach of the Computer Misuse Act and the Data Protection Act as well as being in breach of the NHS Smartcard Terms & Conditions which could result in actions being taken against both the individual as well as the pharmacy.

All pharmacies should have smartcards enabled for all staff within the pharmacy for EPS. There should be a nominated RA ID Checker, Sponsor and Unlocker at each pharmacy who can manage any smartcard issues that arise. E.g. creating new users, assigning access, blocked smartcard, changes to details i.e. change in role or name changes, update certificates or smartcard expiry.

The eMBED Health Consortium are the approved NHS Smartcard supplier for the area and can be contacted on embed.smartcards@nhs.net or call **0300 3000 620** for any advice on smartcard use or the management of the smartcards.

eMBED RA are also undertaking a data quality check on user profiles to update photos, NI numbers and Date of Births that are missing from the system. RA ID Checkers and Sponsor may be asked to provide this information when contacting the team.

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