

PRSB

PROFESSIONAL RECORD STANDARDS BODY
for health and social care

The Professional Record Standards Body (the PRSB) exists to develop high quality, consistent digital care records and promote their use so that people can receive safe, effective health and social care and providers can offer excellent services more efficiently.

Defining standards for care records is core to our purpose but better health and care records will only deliver better care if clinicians and professionals recognise their potential. The PRSB is also working with leaders in health and social care to embed their use across the system.

We are uniquely placed to do this as a professionally led, independent membership organisation speaking with authority on behalf of more than 30 members including the clinical colleges, and professional groups in health and social care representing more than 750,000 frontline staff as well as 160 patient and citizen groups and providers of IT systems across the whole of the United Kingdom.

As the authoritative voice on standards and assurance of care records our remit includes influencing relevant policies, championing the adoption of standards and advocating for the digital agenda so that the transformational benefits of digital health records can be realised in health and social care.

Our portfolio of work builds on the standards framework agreed in July 2013 under the auspices of the AoMRC. The standards that the PRSB is developing consist of information headings for clinical and professional records and a description of the information that should be recorded under each heading. These standards are intended for use by all health and care organisations, and the NHS requires that health and care providers use digital care records and the PRSB standards that support their shared use.

In future, professionals will be required to use clinical coding when sending records within the health and care system. We are working closely with technical specialists in developing digital standards for records that will enable this coding with minimum burden for professionals and clinicians.

The transformational changes occurring in the NHS and social care emphasise the integration of services under STPs and other new models of care such as global digital exemplars, vanguards and more self-care, as well as greater efficiencies. All of them demand better information- sharing that uses digital technologies so that professionals, clinicians and patients themselves have access to information and

*Better records
for better care*



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Professional Record Standards Body

care records whenever and wherever they need it.

The PRSB vision and mission reflects these strategic ambitions. Our vision is: The health and wellbeing of every UK citizen is optimised through the availability of standard, high quality digital health and care records. The mission of the PRSB is to become the authoritative voice for the development and widespread use of standards that ensure all digital health and social care records are of the highest quality.

We work nationally to influence policy; we garner support for change through our membership and networks; and we support local health and care systems to realise the benefits of putting record standards into action.

Since 2014-15 we have transformed the organisation, building on the excellent foundations that were laid:

- We secured a major three-year contract with the NHS Digital and agreed a full year work programme for the coming year against the contract that will help ensure financial sustainability during the coming year. We recognise the need to demonstrate our independence, including financially but the challenges we face are considerable. So we are pursuing further commissions with the four nations, local and national healthcare organisations and social care in an effort to diversify our customer base and work programme.
- Working with our Advisory Board, we established a clear set of priorities for standards development this year and a rationale for what should be tackled first to deliver the most benefit to the health and care system.
- We have built a strong executive team and strengthened the board and Advisory Board. For example, we have strengthened our social care credentials by adding Care Provider Alliance to the Advisory Board and we have improved our governance by clarifying our executive and non-executive roles and the role of the chair. We have also strengthened our financial reporting and governance and we have added a non-executive director with a strong background in running professional service organisations and finance.
- The PRSB works with the Royal College of Physicians as a key strategic delivery partner in standards development and we will continue to draw upon the thought leadership and expertise of the RCP as we take forward the work to develop and spread adoption of standards.
- Our remit extends across the four nations and we are developing our partnerships with Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales in health and care and their respective governments and to reinforce our strategic priority to be truly representative of all four UK nations.
- As a young organisation the PRSB is building its reputation and brand – launching a new website, establishing its social media presence and building networks of influence –which the chair will need to contribute to significantly.
- Last year we successfully completed work on new record standards for transfers of care in ambulance care and crisis care; we also conducted a

review of a pathology informatics methodology for NHS Digital. We are undertaking work with NHS Digital, NHS England and system vendors to test how standards will work within a new information standards framework called Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) that will allow faster development and implementation so that professionals can access and share more care information in order to improve the delivery of services.

- This year we completed a revised electronic discharge summary standard for hospital to GP care, mental health discharge standard, and a crisis care standard, as well as a report on information flows to care homes as part of wider work to integrate health and social care records. We are developing a generic integrated digital care plan, a digital record for child health events, outpatient letter standard, referral letter standard and emergency care discharge standard. We are also developing a programme of support and maintenance for these standards as well.