

# **Your GP surgery and clinical audit**

Your surgery works with an NHS audit team to review the care it provides to you.

**Clinical audits** compare anonymised patient information against national guidelines to ensure that you receive appropriate treatment and care.

# **How do clinical audits help patients?**

**Clinical audits** help to ensure that you are diagnosed promptly and accurately, and that your quality of life is improved through the right support.

For example, an early diagnosis means earlier treatment and better care.

They can also identify patients at risk of developing diseases, preventing conditions from becoming more serious.

**Audits are carried out throughout the year, e.g.**

## **Diabetes**

There are nine recommended standards of care for diabetic patients. We check records regularly to ensure that patients are examined against each of these, and highlight any gaps.

# Dementia

Clinical audit helps to ensure that people with dementia are identified, diagnosed and given the treatment, care and support that they, their families and carers need. It has helped to highlight how certain medicines can be used most effectively.

# Patient privacy – always protected

The Clinical Audit team only ever uses anonymised patient information. Patient NHS numbers are **always** removed through an automated process.

If you do not want information about you to be used in this way, you can opt out by contacting your surgery.