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#### Medical Cards – Facility to Change of Choice of Doctor, for Doctors

Dear Doctor,

As an integral part of the centralisation of Medical Card processing programme, GPs have assisted with a number of practical modifications to the Medical Card register such as additions of new babies and the reinstatement of patients etc. These collaborative efforts assist the HSE to deliver on its responsibility to maintain the register and to process Medical Card applications and reviews.

The purpose of this circular is to draw your attention to the latest feature which the HSE will add to the GP Application Suite from 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017. This allows you to perform a **Change of GP** at the request of a Medical Card holder or GP Visit Card Holder. On completion of that process the person will be transferred on to your panel with immediate effect. Sample screenshots are attached on the following pages.

Where a GP chooses to utilise the Change of Doctor facility:

- They must ensure that they complete a Change of Doctor Form, have it signed by the card holder and retain it for
  their records. The online facility allows the General Practitioner to print the Change of Doctor Form which will be
  pre-populated and allows the card holder retain a copy.
- These forms should be retained by the practice for 12 months for audit purposes.
- The General Practitioner whom the card holder has transferred from will be notified in writing of the change.
- If the patient is moving to your panel as the result of changing address, the online facility also has the option to update the Card holder's address.

This enhancement does not replace the existing process which continues to be available where GPs complete manual paper forms for submission by the patient to the PCRS. Manual Change of Doctor forms received by 20<sup>th</sup> of a month will continue to be processed by 1<sup>st</sup> of following month.

The online enhancement is made available with appropriate control measures to protect both patients and GPs. A part of the control will be additional transparency on your Monthly Panel listing to identify patients who have moved to or from your panel. Online change of doctor applications will be processed up until the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month. Where increased usage is detected clarification will be sought from your Primary Care Unit Manager.

It is emphasised that this new facility does not apply to full or partial panel transfers. You should contact your Community Healthcare Organisation in the normal way to complete a panel transfer. I trust that this new facility will enhance the operation of the scheme from both patients' and your own perspective.

Yours faithfully

Anne Marie Hoey

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**Assistant National Director** 

Primary Care Reimbursement Service

# Sample Screenshots of the Online Facility

#### Welcome Screen



Username: Acting for doctor

Welcome Change Doctor Transfer History Help

Logou

### Welcome

This facility allows you to assist a medical card holder who wishes to move to your panel, so that you become their Choice of Doctor on the medical card scheme.

#### Please note:

- 1. That a GP can facilitate a move to his / her panel only, upon request by the medical card holder.
- 2. Transfer takes place with immediate effect and the capitation payment will apply from the 1st of the month following the transfer.
- 3. Each GP can see the transfer history related to their own panel and a full audit trail of transfers is maintained.
- 4. Online and integrated eligibility confirmation functions will confirm the transfer within 24 hours following an overnight process.

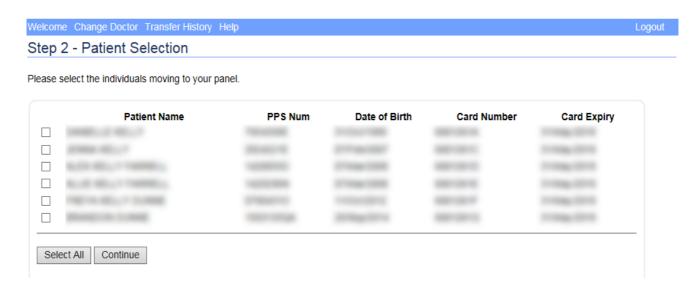
### **Patient Search**



Welcome Change Doctor Transfer History Help L	ogout_
Step 1 - Patient Search	
Enter the card number or PPSN of patient in search form below.	
Card Number	
or	
PPS Number	
Search Clear	

### **Patient Selection**





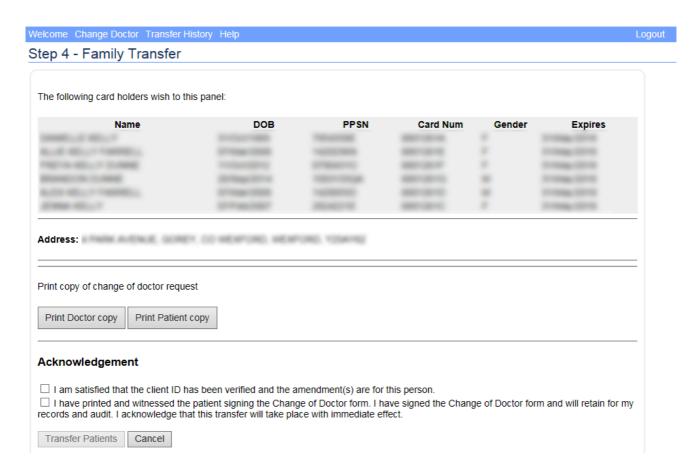
## Facility to update address





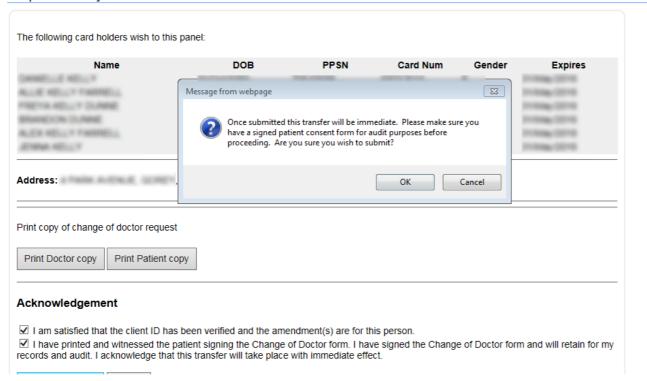
# Details of Cardholder/s to be transferred and facility to print a copy of the form





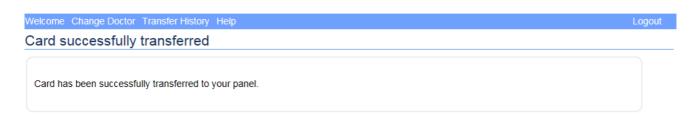
## Check to ensure the GP has a signed copy

Step 4 - Family Transfer



GP will receive this message when the transfer is complete





# **Transfer History**



