



Information
sharing solutions

Sharing Information

working with partner agencies,
commissioners and stakeholders

In recent years the trend has been towards shared care, particularly in the case of patients with complex health needs. For many patients nothing can be more frustrating than having to give the same information a number of times to different people. Often a number of agencies work together to provide a care package for these patients, sometimes even sharing the same record if they are co-located. In other cases health and social work organisations **accept each other's assessments for occupational therapy or domestic support, which clearly implies the sharing of information.**

The NHS, which shares information with, and works cooperatively with, a range of partner agencies, commissioners and other stakeholders, has been quick to recognise **the benefits that Maracis' Information sharing solutions deliver.** With the key requirement of making up-to-the-minute, relevant information available to authorised recipients in a safe, secure yet easily accessible way, Maracis has developed two key browser-based services – optional services that can be added to any MARACIS supplied solution.



The Maracis Client Portal

The Maracis Client Portal allows Maracis customers to share information concerning their patients or clients with other agencies involved in providing care. Information can be shared in one, or more, of three forms:

- Documents – such as a care plan document,
- Structured data – such as a list of care packages,
- Narrative - using the Maracis Narrative service which automatically generates narrative statements from structured data – such as a client discharge summary.

Staff in other agencies who are involved in the patients care are allowed access to **patients' records on a 'need to know' basis.** Additional facilities allow patients to withhold consent to the sharing of information with particular agencies or individuals.

The Maracis Strategic Reporting Portal

The Maracis Strategic Reporting Portal allows Maracis customers to share key management and performance information within the organisation, or with partner agencies and commissioners. Customers retain complete control over which reports, or groups of reports, can be accessed by individuals or groups of users.

Report designs, which can incorporate a wide range of graphical presentation styles to simplify the presentation of information, are held in tables in the core database, allowing authorised users to change, amend and enhance individual reports quickly and easily, without involving the IT department. Each report can be saved locally or printed, and are run directly against the Maracis database to ensure that the information being shared is accurate and up-to-date.

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...healthier solutions, by design



Joining up GPs with NHS Trusts

Installed in NHS Trusts throughout the country **and with over 30,000 users, Maracis' solutions** currently handle £1 billion of business each year.

Maracis' browser-based information sharing services was developed to provide GPs with access to pdf documents generated from reports used by their NHS Trust — an innovative solution that has generated substantial interest within Social Services, Accident and Emergency and other acute hospital services.

The solution, which is already allowing NHS Trusts to share a number of information **'views' with staff in partner agencies, can** include any patient-centred report and as the information requirements of different agency types change over time, can be updated (or new reports built) to generate the necessary views.

Extremely powerful security features ensure that users are only able to access specific and pre-determined information sets. Patient searches by a GP will only return patients that are registered with the GP practice and who have a current care spell on the Maracis database. Similarly, a patient search undertaken by staff within a local authority social services department will only return patients that are resident in the area of the local authority with which the **agency's account is associated.**

"We have used Maracis since 1998, as a Patient Administration System and to deliver eCPA and statutory reporting requirements. As requirements to share information with partner organisations grow, we look forward to working with Maracis to make the best use of available technology with the confidence that we will maintain the highest levels of security and confidentiality."

Stephanie Colborne
IT Programme Manager
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

Benefits:

- Information can be shared between NHS Trusts, partner agencies, commissioners and stakeholders.
- Delivers up-to-the-minute information to authorised recipients.
- Information can be shared as documents, structures data and/or narrative statements.
- Report designs can be amended quickly and easily. New report templates can be produced without reliance upon IT departments.
- Compatible with all MARACIS supplied solutions.
- Completely secure – users are only able to access specific and pre-determined information sets; full control over access rights allows users to be added or removed immediately.

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