**Information for Patients re Photographs sent via AccuRx System**

Photographs can be very useful diagnostic tools, eg as an aid to remote consulting via telephone or video consults when we are trying to limit face to face consultations (eg during the Coronavirus pandemic), as a way to monitor changes in a condition eg a skin lesion, or to aid referral onwards to a specialist if needed.

Please only send an image if it has been specifically requested and you agree.
If we request an image it will be via the AccuRx system. We will send this text message to your nominated mobile phone number:

*“Our clinician has requested a photograph of your complaint to aid diagnosis. Do not send any image that you would not consent to have stored.*

*Think carefully before sending the image, especially of a child or vulnerable adult. Avoid sending images of intimate areas. Reply with: “I consent to this image being stored on my medical record”* [*https://www.bridgeroadmclitherland.nhs.uk/info.aspx?p=12*](https://www.bridgeroadmclitherland.nhs.uk/info.aspx?p=12)

There will be a link that allows you to reply once and attach photographs to that message.

Please look at this link for guidance if needed:

<https://support.accurx.com/en/articles/3925716-my-gp-has-asked-me-to-respond-to-a-text-send-them-a-photo>

You should be aware that if you send us an image we can choose whether or not to upload and keep it in your medical record, but that an encrypted copy of the image will be stored in the AccuRx system servers until 10 years after your death.

Please look at this link for more information:

<https://support.accurx.com/en/articles/4004233-patient-photos-ig-and-security>

If you have any further questions please discuss with the Clinician providing your care.