

## Registration Authority Newsletter - January 2024

**Smartcard Audits**- RA Team will be commencing smartcard audit in the coming weeks and will be contacting sponsors; kindly respond promptly as usual!

### **Cervical Screening Management System (CSMS) readiness**

All practices are expected to have completed the setup of staff involved in CSMS. Step-by-step guidance on how to add staff to workgroup and update email addresses available on NEL ICB GP website [Cervical Screening Management System – North East London \(icb.nhs.uk\)](https://icb.nhs.uk)

### **Change to smartcard certificate lengths and passcode validation changes;**

Smartcard certificate lengths are being increased from 2 years to 3 years and Passcodes for all smartcards must now be in a 6 to 8 digit format. This change was made so that Care Identity Management will be able to support series 9 smartcards.

### **Update to Smartcard Software to prepare for series 9 smartcards (NB- NEL ICB to update GP sites)**

Series 9 smartcards has now been introduced and will require additional software components for their rollout. These components and guides are available below:

- NHS Credential Management 1.3.1.0
- PIV Minidriver (to be deployed on all systems using series 9 smartcards)

You can [download the software and installation guides from the DIR downloads site](#) (needs HSCN connection).

**NB: You must have PIV Middleware installed on ALL devices that interact with Series 9 smart cards**

NHSD have also released NHS Identity Agent 2.4.5.0 (utilising security update TLS 1.2) which includes the new self-service unlock link.

A broadcast event was held 22 September 2023 to outline the documentation, installation and support processes. [A video of this event is available here.](#)

### **Care Identity Management.**

CIM is replacing the legacy Care Identity Service application (CIS), to meet modern security, adaptability and design standards. A new system that allows Registration Authority users to manage access to patient data. For Step-by-step guidance on using Care Identity Management visit [Step-by-step guidance on using Care Identity Management - NHS Digital](#)

### **Access for Sponsors & local smartcard administrators**

All sponsors and unlockers will be able to perform their full role in Care Identity Management, including:

- searching for and viewing user profiles

- unlocking a smartcard
- Renewing a smartcard, if the card is within its certificate renewal period.

Sponsors/Unblockers should stop using the Care Identity Service application and start using Care Identity Management instead.

### **New self-service Smartcard unlock application launched**

Important Message: Locked your smartcard? Use a new application to quickly unlock your smartcard by email (Check your email address is up to date).

This means:

- there's no need to register
- there are no security questions to remember
- nobody needs to take their card to a Registration Authority to have it unlocked
- everyone can access the application using a regular internet connection

For full details of the new application, [read our guidance on the new self-service smartcard unlock](#).

### **Self -Service Smartcard Registration; Apply for Care ID service**

The Apply for Care ID app is simple to use and will mean that new users do not need to attend an ICB office to get a new smartcard. Find out more about the [Apply for Care ID service](#).

If you have a Sponsor, RA Agent or RA Manager role, you should be able to access the **Apply for Care ID service** and [start using the service now](#).

Sponsors may also send the RA team: 1. Staff full name (as in passport), 2. Staff Mobile phone number and 3. Staff email address for the new user request to be processed.

### **Local RA ID checkers role (Staff authorised to undertake identity verification and creation only)**

Organisations are also advised to take advantage of the **local RA ID checkers role** by nominating at least 2 staff per site to complete the relevant training (an online RA policy module plus a remote ID check sessions by emailing the [itservicedesk.nelicb@nhs.net](mailto:itservicedesk.nelicb@nhs.net) with names, email and telephone numbers of nominees.

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