

Privacy Policy - Medical

1. Introduction.

This privacy policy sets out the way the Shropshire Doctors Cooperative Ltd process your personal information. It deals with how we collect information, what we do with it, how we protect it and what controls or rights you have.

We are committed to protecting the privacy of our patients [and anyone who interacts with us] and will treat all information you give us with care.

We promise to:

- Tell you why we collect personal information, how we do this and what we use it for.
- Only collect the information we need to deliver the service to you.
- Keep the personal information up to date and ensure it is safe and secure.

Please read this Privacy Policy carefully to understand how we process your personal data. By providing your personal data to us or by using our services or this website you are accepting or consenting to the practices in this Privacy Policy.

We may change this policy from time to time. The date this policy was last updated is shown at the end of this document.

As a data controller, we fully comply with the Data Protection Act 2018, the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003 and the UK General Data Protection Regulations (UKGDPR). We will also comply with all applicable clinical confidentiality guidelines. We are recorded on the ICO Data Protection Register under registration number Z7290473.

2. Who we are.

In this policy references to the Shropshire Doctors Cooperative Ltd or Shropdoc are to the Shropshire Doctors Cooperative Ltd, 3 Longbow Close, Harlescote Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 3GZ, and Company Registration No: 3136437

3. What information we collect.

We collect personal information about you to enable us to provide the services or fulfil a role with us. This may include:

- Name and address, marital status, family history and details of any lasting power of attorney
- Email address and telephone numbers.
- The country you live in, date of birth, national insurance number, passport number and where relevant the language you speak.
- Details of your employment.
- The name and contact details of your next of kin. It is your responsibility to ensure that if you provide us with any information about another person that they are aware of the terms of this privacy policy.

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- From your parent or guardian if you are under 16. This may include details of any educational establishment you attend.
- Recordings of telephone calls we receive or make.
- Any photograph voluntarily submitted as part of a medical consultation ☐ Video and sound recordings on our premises and in our vehicles ☐ Details of services and treatments you may have received from us.
- Reports or notes on your health or any treatment and care you have received or need.
- Patient feedback and treatment outcome information, you provide.
- Information about complaints and incidents.
- When you visit our website, we collect information about your IP address and pages you visit. This does not tell us who you are or your address, unless you choose to provide that information.
- Information from customer surveys that you take part in.

We will also collect Special category data – sometimes called sensitive personal information. This includes:

- Information about your race, ethnic origin and religion.
- Information about your physical or mental health, genetic data or biometric data.
- Information about your sex life or sexual orientation.
- Information about risk and safeguarding.

4. How do we collect Personal Information?

We collect the personal information in the following ways:

- When you request clinical advice, services or treatments.
- When you provide information by filling in a form on registration or information provided at any other time at any other time.
- When you correspond with us by email, phone or other ways.
- During the course of the provision of services to you.
- Contact us by email, telephone, and social media or in any other way.
- When you visit our website.
- Fill in a form or survey for us.
- Information from emergency services, local authority and other public organisations.
- From video and sound recordings in our vehicles.
- Information from third parties including business partners, service providers, technical sub-contractors, payment and delivery services, advertisers when you have given permission to share it with us
- From publicly available services to keep your information up to date for example the NHS national data base.
- When you participate in discussion forums or other social media on our site or sites managed by us.
- When you participate in a survey

5. Personal Information Provided by other Sources

We may collect personal data about you from other sources and these can include:

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- From your next of kin or other family member.
- Provided by doctors, other clinicians and health care professional, hospitals, clinics and other health care providers.
- Your employer when they provide information.
- [Translators and interpreters].
- Any health professional or organisation who provides information for the continuity of your care.
- Information from a Local Authority or the Police.

6. How we use the information and why we need it.

We use the personal information to provide direct health care services to individual patients and to meet our contractual commitments as a healthcare provider. This may include:

- **Processing** – this will include using the information to fulfil any request made by you or someone on your behalf to receive one of our health care services.
- **Contract** – we are a commissioned service, and we will process your personal information to fulfil that contract.
- **Consent** – generally we will only ask for your consent to process your personal information if there is no other legal ground to process. Where we need your consent, we will ensure you are as fully informed as possible and use that consent solely for the reason you have given it to us. You will be able to change your mind at any time by contacting us at the address in paragraph 14. Any email or text to you will have a link to let you do so.
- **Public interest task**– we will process your personal information when carrying out the performance of a task in the public interest which includes the provision of direct health care or social care. This also includes processing personal information to train and educate health care professionals
- **Necessary for the purpose of preventative or occupational medicine** – to assess whether you are able to work, the provision to you of health or social care, a medical diagnosis, or the management of health and social care systems.
- **Necessary to defend legal claims or a court action.**
- **Vital interests** – where it is necessary to protect your vital interests or those of another person.
- **Public interest** – this is usually in line with any applicable laws such as protecting against dishonesty, malpractice or other seriously improper behaviour.
- **Information you have made public.**

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- **Profiling** – we may make use of profiling and screening methods to provide a better service to patients. Profiling helps us target resources more effectively through gaining an insight into the background of patients and helping us build relationships that are appropriate to their needs.

7. Legitimate interests

The Shropshire Doctors Cooperative Ltd also processes your data when it is in our legitimate interest to do this and when these interests do not override your rights. These legitimate interests include: -

- Providing you with information and feedback on our services.
- Keeping our records up to date.
- For statistical research and analysis and to enable us to we can monitor and improve services.
- To monitor how we are meeting our clinical and non-clinical performance in the case of health care providers.
- Sharing your personal information with people or organisations in order to comply with any legal or regulatory obligations or to enable us to run our organisation.
- To fulfil laws that apply to us and the third parties we work with.
- Managing our relationships with you and third parties who assist us to provide the services to you.

8. Who will see the information?

Your information will only be accessible to our staff and only where it is appropriate in respect of the role they are carrying out. We will never sell your information or let other organisations use it for their own.

We will only share your personal information:

- If consent is necessary, we will have taken your consent to us doing so and will provide information for the specific reason your consent was given. You will have the opportunity to withhold consent when you complete the form on which we collect the data or you can do so by contacting us at the address in paragraph 14, at any time.
- Doctors, clinicians, hospitals, clinics, diagnostic and treatment centres and other health care providers to provide our services and continuity of health care. This also includes processing personal information to enable organisations to carry out research and medical trials and processing personal information to train and educate health care professionals.
- Your GP – where clinically necessary we may share your information with your GP. You can ask us not to do so and we will respect this unless legally required to provide the information. You should be aware it may be detrimental to your health if your GP does not have your full medical history.
- First responders, ambulance service, safeguarding, undertakers, coroner and care homes.

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- Where it is necessary to protect your vital interest (i.e. your life or health)
- Other organisations you belong to confirm your entitlement to our services.
- Organisations or people who by law or regulations we must share your personal information with. This can be national data bases, screening registers government authorities and NHS organisations.
- The police or other law enforcement agencies to assist them perform their duties if we must do this by law or under a court order.
- Where we use other organisations to provide services on our behalf for processing, mailing, delivering, answering patient’s questions about services, sending mail and emails, data analysis, assessment and profiling or processing credit/debit card payments.
- To organisations who you have requested us to supply information so that they can provide services or products you have requested.
- Organisations providing IT systems, IT support and hosting in relation to IT systems on which information is stored.
- When using auditors and professional advisors.
- When we are legally required to, or because of a lawful request by a governmental or law enforcement authority.
- If we merge with another organisation or form a new entity.

Where a third-party data processor is used, we ensure they operate under a contract which includes confidentiality and security of personal data and their obligations under the Data Protection legislation.

9. National Opt-Out

Whenever you use a health or care service, important information about you is collected in a patient record. Collecting this information helps to ensure you get the best possible care and treatment.

The information collected about you when you use these services can also be provided to other organisations for purposes beyond your individual care, for instance to help with:

- improving the quality and standards of care provided
- research into the development of new treatments
- preventing illness and diseases

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- monitoring safety
- planning services

Most of the time, anonymised data is used for research and planning so that you cannot be identified in which case your confidential patient information is not needed.

Sometimes, for research and planning your confidential patient information will be needed. You have a choice about whether you want your confidential patient information to be used in this way. If you are happy with this use of your information you do not need to do anything. If you do not wish your information to be used, you can opt out. If you do choose to opt out your confidential patient information will still be used to support your individual care.

To find out more or to register your choice to opt out, please visit www.nhs.uk/your-nhsdata-matters. On this web page you will:

- See what is meant by confidential patient information
- Find examples of when confidential patient information is used for individual care and examples of when it is used for purposes beyond individual care
- Find out more about the benefits of sharing data
- Understand more about who uses the data
- Find out how your data is protected
- Be able to access the system to view, set or change your opt-out setting
- Find the contact telephone number if you want to know any more or to set/change your opt-out by phone
- See the situations where the opt-out will not apply

You can change your mind about your choice at any time.

Our organisation is compliant with the national data opt-out policy.

10. Security.

The security of your personal information is very important to us. We protect all personal data we hold and ensure we have appropriate organisational and technical measures in place to prevent unauthorised access or unlawful processing of personal data and to prevent data being lost, destroyed or damaged. All information you provide to us is stored on secure servers.

Unfortunately, the transmission of information via the internet is not completely secure. Although we will do our best to protect your personal data, we cannot guarantee the security of your data emailed or transmitted to us or to our website; any transmission is at your own risk. Once we have received your information, we will use strict procedures and security features to try to prevent unauthorised access.

All the personal data is processed in the UK however for IT hosting and maintenance your information may be situated outside the European Economic Area (EEA).

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[You might find links to third party websites on our website. These websites should have their own privacy policies, which you should check. We do not accept any responsibility or liability for their policies whatsoever as we have no control over them.]

11. Your rights.

You have the following rights:

- Transparency over how we use your personal information (right to be informed).
- To request a copy of the personal information we hold about you, which will be provided to you within one month (right of access).
- An update or amendment of the personal information we hold about you (right of rectification).
- To ask us to stop using personal information (right to restrict processing).
- Ask us to remove your personal information from our records (right to be forgotten).
- Request us to remove your personal information for marketing purposes (right to object).
- To obtain and reuse your personal data for your own purposes (right to portability).
- Not to be subject to a decision based on automated processing.

You can contact to us about any of these rights at the address in paragraph 14. To protect your privacy, we may ask you to prove your identity before we agree to respond to any request. There is no charge for a request, and we will respond to the request within one month.

If you are not satisfied with the way in which we deal with your request, you can contact the Information Commissioners Office on 0303 123 1113 or at their website www.ico.org.uk.

12. Cookies.

Our website uses cookies to distinguish you from other users of our website. This helps us to provide you with a good experience when you browse our website and allows us to improve our site. By continuing to browse the site, you are agreeing to our use of cookies.

A cookie is a small file of letters and numbers that we store on your browser or the hard drive of your computer if you agree. Cookies contain information that is transferred to your computer’s hard drive.

We use the following cookies:

- **Strictly necessary cookies.** These are cookies that are required for the operation of our website. They include, for example, cookies that enable you to log into secure areas of our website, use a shopping cart or make use of e-billing services.
- **Analytical/performance cookies.** These allow us to recognise and count the number of visitors and to see how visitors move around our website when they are using it.

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This helps us to improve the way our website works, for example, by ensuring that users are finding what they are looking for easily.

- **Functionality cookies.** These are used to recognise you when you return to our website. This enables us to personalise our content for you, greet you by name and remember your preferences (for example, your choice of language or region).
- **Targeting cookies.** These cookies record your visit to our website, the pages you have visited and the links you have followed. We will use this information to make our website and the advertising displayed on it more relevant to your interests. We may also share this information with third parties for this purpose.

13. Retention of information.

We hold your information only for as long as necessary for each purpose we use it. We use the following guidelines: -

- Any time limits set by law or recommended by regulators professional bodies or associations.
- Time limits for making a claim.
- For as long as we have a reasonable need for managing our relationship with you or running our organisation.

14. CCTV

Our premises are monitored by CCTV for the safety of visitors and staff. Images are retained in accordance with ICO guidelines. The Shropshire Doctors Cooperative Ltd sees patients at hospital sites not controlled by Shropdoc which may also be monitored by CCTV and where local policies will apply.

15. How to contact us.

If you have any questions about this privacy policy or your rights regarding processing your personal information, or wish to make a complaint please contact:

Patient Liaison and Risk Manager, Shropshire Doctors Cooperative Ltd, 3 Longbow Close, Harlescott Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 3GZ

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DOCUMENT CONTROL




Document Storage

Location: All current controlled documents can be view via the Shropdoc Hub. A master signed copy of this document is held by the Document Controller.

Version Control Log

Version	Date	Author	Description of Changes
1	17.5.2019	IG Lead	Replaces Data Protection Policy
2	11/05/2022	IG Lead	Update IG Lead and SIRO
2.1	14/10/2024	IG Lead	Review only, no changes

Approval

Version	Name	Position	Signature	Approved Date
1	Clare Timmins	IG Lead		
1	Russell Muirhead	SIRO		
2	Pete Crewe	IG Lead		11/05/2022
2	Dan Robinson	SIRO		12/05/22
2.1	Kevin Sleeman	Head of IT		14/10/2024

Related Documents

Document Name

Glossary

Term	Description

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