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# GREAT AYTON HEALTH CENTRE

## PRIVACY NOTICE

### 1. YOUR INFORMATION, YOUR RIGHTS

A Privacy Notice is an explanation of what information the practice collects on patients and how it is used. Being transparent and providing accessible information to patients about how we will use your personal information is a key element of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the EU General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which come into force of 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

The following notice reminds you of your rights in respect of the above legislation and how your GP Practice will use your information for lawful purposes in order to deliver your care and the effective management of the local NHS system.

This notice reflects how we use information for:

- The management of patient records;
- Communication concerning your clinical, social and supported care;
- Ensuring the quality of your care and the best clinical outcomes are achieved through clinical audit and retrospective review;
- Participation in health and social care research; and
- The management and clinical planning of services to ensure that appropriate care is in place for our patients today and in the future.

### 2. DATA CONTROLLER

As your registered GP practice, we are the data controller for any personal data that we hold about you.

### 3. WHAT INFORMATION DO WE COLLECT AND USE?

All personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully, whether is it received directly from you or from a third party in relation to your care.

We will collect the following types of information from you or about you from a third party (provider organisation) engaged in the delivery of your care:

- 'Personal data' meaning any information relating to an identifiable person who can be directly or indirectly identified from the data. This includes, but is not limited to name, date of birth, full postcode, address, next of kin and NHS Number;  
**And**
- 'Special category / sensitive data' such as medical history including details of appointments and contact with you, medication, emergency appointments and admissions, clinical notes, treatments, results of investigations, supportive care arrangements, social care status, race, ethnic origin, genetics and sexual orientation.
- The Practice may conduct medicines management review of medications prescribed to its patients. This service performs a review of prescribed medications to ensure patients receive the most

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appropriate, up to date and cost-effective treatment. This service is provided to practices within North Yorkshire through Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group.

- In order to comply with its legal obligations, the practice may send data to NHS Digital when directed by the Secretary of State for Health under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Additionally, this practice contributes to national clinical audits and will send data this is required by NHS Digital when the law allows. This may include demographic data, such as date of birth, and information about your health which is recorded in coded form; for example, the clinical code for diabetes or high blood pressure.

Processing your information in this way and obtaining your consent ensures that we comply with Articles 6(1)(c), 6(1)(e) and 9(2)(h) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Your healthcare records contain information about your health and any treatment or care you have received previously (e.g. from an acute hospital, GP surgery, community care provider, mental health care provider, walk-in centre, social services). These records may be electronic, a paper record or a mixture of both. We use a combination of technologies and working practices to ensure that we keep your information secure and confidential.

#### **4. WHY DO WE COLLECT THIS INFORMATION**

The NHS Act 2006 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012 invests statutory functions on GP Practices to promote and provide the health service in England, improve quality of services, reduce inequalities, conduct research, review performance of services and deliver education and training. To do this we will need to process your information in accordance with current data protection legislation to:

- Protect your vital interests;
- Pursue our legitimate interests as a provider of medical care, particularly where the individual is a child or a vulnerable adult;
- Perform tasks in the public's interest;
- Deliver preventative medicine, medical diagnosis, medical research; and
- Manage the health and social care system and services.

#### **5. HOW IS THE INFORMATION COLLECTED**

Your information will be collected either electronically using secure NHS Mail or a secure electronic transferred over an NHS encrypted network connection. In addition physical information will be sent to your practice. This information will be retained within your GP's electronic patient record or within your physical medical records.

#### **6. MAINTAINING CONFIDENTIALITY AND ACCESSING YOUR RECORDS**

We are committed to maintain confidentiality and protecting the information we hold about you. We adhere to the:

General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 (which replaces the Data Protection Act 1998)

NHS Codes of Confidentiality and Security

Health and Social Care Act 2012

Guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

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Human Rights Act 1998  
Common Law Duty of Confidentiality

You have a right to access the information we hold about you, and if you would like to access this information, you will need to complete a Subject Access Request (SAR). Please ask at reception for a SAR form and you will be given further information. We are required to respond within one month. Furthermore, should you identify any inaccuracies you have a right to have the inaccurate data corrected.

Every member of staff who works for an NHS organisation has a legal obligation to keep information about you confidential.

We will only pass on information about you if others involved in your care have a genuine need for it. We will not disclose your information to any third party without your permission unless there are exceptional circumstances (i.e. life or death situations), where the law requires information to be passed on and/or in accordance with the new information sharing principle following Dame Fiona Caldicott's information sharing review (Information to share or not to share) where "The duty to share information can be as important as the duty to protect patient confidentiality". This means that health and social care professionals should have the confidence to share information in the best interests of their patients within the framework set out by the Caldicott principles. They should be supported by the policies of their employers, regulators and professional bodies.

## **7. WHO WILL WE SHARE YOUR INFORMATION WITH?**

In order to deliver and coordinate your health and social care, we may share information with the following organisations:

- A. Commissioners;
- B. Clinical Commissioning Groups;
- C. Local authorities;
- D. Community health services;
- E. Voluntary Sector Services;
- F. Private Sector Providers;
- G. Social Care Services;
- H. Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC);
- I. Education Services;
- J. Fire and Rescue Services;
- K. Police and Judicial Services;

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- L. For the purposes of complying with the law e.g. Police, Solicitors, Insurance Companies;
- M. Anyone you have given your consent to, to view or receive your record, or part of your record. **Please note, if you give another person or organisation consent to access your record we will need to contact you to verify your consent before we release that record. It is important that you are clear and understand how much and what aspects of, your record you give consent to be disclosed.**

**N. Primary Care Network**

We are a member of the Hambleton North (PCN). This means we will be working closely with a number of other Practices and health and care organisations to provide healthcare services to you.

During the course of our work we may share your information with these Practices and health care organisations/professionals. We will only share this information where it relates to your direct healthcare needs.

When we do this, we will always ensure that appropriate agreements are in place to protect your information and keep it safe and secure. This is also what the Law requires us to do.

If you would like to see the information the PCN holds about you please contact the Data Protection Officer at Great Ayton Health Centre.

- O. **Extended Access** – we provide extended access services to our patients which means you can access medical services outside of our normal working hours. In order to provide you with this service, we have formal arrangements in place with the Clinical Commissioning Group and with other practices whereby certain key “**hub**” practices offer this service on our behalf for you as a patient to access outside of our opening hours. This means, those key “**hub**” practices will have to have access to your medical record to be able to offer you the service. Please note to ensure that those practices comply with the law and to protect the use of your information, we have very robust data sharing agreements and other clear arrangements in place to ensure your data is always protected and used for those purposes only.

The key **Hub** practices are as follows:

Stokesley Health Centre

Mayford House

Mowbray House

- P. **Data Extraction by the Clinical Commissioning Group** – the clinical commissioning group at times extracts medical information about you, but the information we pass to them via our computer systems **cannot identify you to them**. This information only refers to you by way of a code that only your practice can identify (it is pseudo-anonymised). This therefore protects you from anyone who may have access to this information at the Clinical Commissioning Group from **ever** identifying you as a result of seeing the medical information and we will **never** give them the information that would enable them to do this.

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There are good reasons why the Clinical commissioning Group may require this pseudo-anonymised information, these are as follows:

- a) To monitor the provision of services
- b) To improve the quality of services
- c) To carry out audit and review outcomes of services

#### Q. **Third Party Processors**

In order to deliver the best possible service, the practice will share data (where required) with other NHS bodies such as other GP practices and hospitals. In addition the practice will use carefully selected third party service providers. When we use a third party service provider to process data on our behalf then we will always have an appropriate agreement in place to ensure that they keep the data secure, that they do not use or share information other than in accordance with our instructions and that they are operating appropriately. Examples of functions that may be carried out by third parties includes:

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and your information**

The ICO recognises the unprecedented challenges the NHS and other health professionals are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ICO also recognise that 'Public bodies may require additional collection and sharing of personal data to protect against serious threats to public health.'

The Government have also taken action in respect of this and on 20th March 2020 the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care issued a notice under Regulation 3(4) of the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002 requiring organisations such as GP Practices to use your information to help GP Practices and other healthcare organisations to respond to and deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please note that this notice has now been revised and extended by a further notice from 10 September 2021 until 31st March 2022.

In order to look after your healthcare needs during this difficult time, we may urgently need to share your personal information, including medical records, with clinical and non-clinical staff who belong to organisations that are permitted to use your information and need to use it to help deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. This could (amongst other measures) consist of either treating you or a member of your family and enable us and other healthcare organisations to monitor the disease, assess risk and manage the spread of the disease. Additionally, the use of your information is now required to support NHS Test and Trace.

Please be assured that we will only share information and health data that is necessary to meet yours and public healthcare needs.

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has also stated that these measures are temporary and will expire on 31st March 2022 unless a further extension is required. Any further extension will be provided in writing, and we will communicate the same to you.

Please also note that the data protection and electronic communication laws do not stop us from sending public health messages to you, either by phone, text or email as these messages are not direct marketing.

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It may also be necessary, where the latest technology allows us to do so, to use your information and health data to facilitate digital consultations and diagnoses and we will always do this with your security in mind. If you are concerned about how your information is being used, please contact our DPO using the contact details provided in this Privacy Notice.

## **8. HOW DO WE MAINTAIN THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF YOUR RECORDS?**

We are committed to protecting your privacy and will only use information that has been collected lawfully. Every member of staff who works for an NHS organisation has a legal obligation to keep information about you confidential. We maintain our duty of confidentiality by conducting annual training and awareness, ensuring access to personal data is limited to the appropriate staff and information is only shared with organisations and individuals that have a legitimate and legal basis for access.

Information is not held for longer than is necessary. We will hold your information in accordance with the Records Management Code of Practice for Health and Social Care 2016.

## **9. CONSENT AND OBJECTIONS**

### **Do I need to give my consent?**

The GDPR sets a high standard for consent. Consent means offering people genuine choice and control over how their data is used. When consent is used properly, it helps you build trust and enhance your reputation. However, consent is only one potential lawful basis for processing information. Therefore, your GP practice may not need to seek your explicit consent for every instance of processing and sharing your information, on the condition that the processing is carried out in accordance with this notice. Your GP Practice will contact you if they are required to share your information for any other purpose which is not mentioned within this notice. Your consent will be documented within your electronic patient record.

### **What will happen if I withhold my consent or raise an objection?**

You have the right to write to withdraw your consent to any time for any particular instance of processing, provided consent is the legal basis for the processing. Please contact your GP Practice for further information and to raise your objection.

## **10. HEALTH RISK SCREENING/RISK STRATIFICATION**

Health Risk Screening or Risk Stratification is a process that helps your GP to determine whether you are at risk of an unplanned admission or deterioration in health. By using selected information such as age, gender, NHS Number, diagnosis, existing long term condition(s), medication history, patterns of hospital attendances, admissions and periods of access to community care your GP will be able to judge if you are likely to need more support and care from time to time, or if the right services are in place to support the local population's needs.

To summarise Risk Stratification is used in the NHS to:

- Help decide if a patient is at a greater risk of suffering from a particular condition;
- Prevent an emergency admission;
- Identify if a patient needs medical help to prevent a health condition from getting worse; and/or

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- Review and amend provision of current health and social care services.

*[Your GP will use computer based algorithms or calculations to identify their registered patients who are at most risk, with support from the local Commissioning Support Unit and/or a third party accredited Risk Stratification provider. The risk stratification contracts are arranged by HRW CCG in accordance with the current Section 251 Agreement. Neither the CSU nor your local CCG will at any time have access to your personal or confidential data. They will only act on behalf of your GP to organise the risk stratification service with appropriate contractual technical and security measures in place.]*

Your GP will routinely conduct the risk stratification process outside of your GP appointment. This process is conducted electronically and without human intervention. The resulting report is then reviewed by a multidisciplinary team of staff within the Practice. This may result in contact being made with you if alterations to the provision of your care are identified.

*[A Section 251 Agreement is where the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has granted permission for personal data to be used for the purposes of risk stratification, in acknowledgement that it would overburden the NHS to conduct manual reviews of all patient registers held by individual providers.]*

As mentioned above, you have the right to object to your information being used in this way. However you should be aware that your objection may have a negative impact on the timely and proactive provision of your direct care. Please contact the Practice Manager to discuss how disclosure of your personal data can be limited.

## **11. SHARING OF ELECTRONIC PATIENT RECORDS WITHIN THE NHS**

Electronic patient records are kept in most places where you receive healthcare. Our local electronic system SystemOne enables your record to be shared with organisations involved in your direct care, such as:

- GP practices
- GP connect
- Community services such as district nurses, rehabilitation services, telehealth and out of hospital services.
- Child health services that undertake routine treatment or health screening
- Urgent care organisations, minor injury units or out of hours services
- Community hospitals
- Palliative care hospitals
- Care Homes
- Mental Health Trusts
- Hospitals
- Social Care organisations
- Pharmacies

In addition, NHS England have implemented the Summary Care Record which contains information including medication you are taking and any bad reactions to medication that you have had in the past.

In most cases, particularly for patients with complex conditions and care arrangements, the shared electronic health record plays a vital role in delivering the best care and a coordinated response, taking into account all aspects of a person's physical and mental health. Many patients are understandably not able to provide a full

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account of their care, or may not be in a position to do so. The shared record means patients do not have to repeat their medical history at every care setting.

Your record will be automatically setup to be shared with the organisations listed above; however you have the right to ask your GP to disable this function or restrict access to specific elements of your record. This will mean that the information recorded by your GP will not be visible at any other care setting.

You can also reinstate your consent at any time by giving your permission to override your previous dissent.

## **12. INVOICE VALIDATION**

Your information may be shared if you have received treatment to determine which clinical commissioning group (CCG) is responsible for paying for your treatment. This information may include your name, address and treatment date. All of this information is held securely and confidentially; it will not be used for any other purpose or shared with any third parties.

## **13. OPT-OUTS**

You have a right to object to your information being shared. Should you wish to opt out of data collection, please contact a member of staff who will be able to explain how you can opt out and prevent sharing of your information; this is done by registering a Type1 opt-out, preventing your information from being shared outside this practice.

Whenever you use a health or care service, such as attending Accident & Emergency or using Community Care Services, important information about you is collected in a patient record for that service. 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 used and provided to other organisations for purposes beyond your individual care, for instance to help with:

- Improving the quality and standard of care provided
- Research into the development of new treatments
- Preventing illness and diseases
- Monitoring safety
- Planning services

This may only take place when there is a clear legal basis to uses this information. All these uses help to provide better health and care for you, your family and future generations. Confidential patient information about your health and care is only used like this where allowed by law.

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 isn't 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 information you do not need to do anything. If you do choose to opt-out your confidential patient information will still be used to support your individual care.

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To find out more or to register your choice to opt-out, please visit [www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters](http://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-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
- Understanding 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 also find out more about how patient information is used at:

<https://www.hra.nhs.uk/information-about-patients/> (which covers health and care research); and <https://understandingpatientdata.org.uk/what-you-need-know> (which covers how and why patient information is used, the safeguards and how decisions are made)

This is known as a Type 2 opt-out. You can change your mind about your choice at any time.

Data being used or shared for purposes beyond individual care does not include your data being shared with insurance companies or used for marketing purposes and data would only be used in this way with your specific agreement.

Health and care organisations have until 2020 to put systems and processes in place so they can apply your national data opt-out choice. Our organisation is able to apply your national data opt-out choice to any confidential patient information we may use or share with other organisations for purposes beyond your individual care.

#### **14. RETENTION PERIODS**

In accordance with the NHS Codes of Practice for Records Management, your healthcare records will be retained for 10 years after death, or if a patient emigrates, for 10 years after the date of emigration.

#### **15. NOTIFICATION**

We are required to register a notification with the Information Commissioner to describe the purposes for which we process personal and sensitive information.

This information is publicly available on the Information Commissioners Office website [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

#### **16. YOUR RIGHT OF ACCESS TO YOUR RECORDS**

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The Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulations allows you to find out what information is held about you including information held within your medical records, either in electronic or physical format. This is known as the “right of subject access”. If you would like to have access to all or part of your records, you can make a request in writing to the organisation that you believe holds your information. This can be your GP, or a provider that is or has delivered your treatment and care. You should however be aware that some details within your health records may be exempt from disclosure, however this will in the interests of your wellbeing or to protect the identity of a third party. If you would like access to your GP record please submit your request in writing to:

Great Ayton Health Centre, Rosehill, Great Ayton, Middlesbrough TS9 6BL

## **17. LEGAL JUSTIFICATION FOR COLLECTING AND USING YOUR INFORMATION**

The Law says we need a **legal basis** to handle your personal and healthcare information.

**CONTRACT:** We have a contract with NHS England to deliver healthcare services to you. This contract provides that we are under a legal obligation to ensure that we deliver medical and healthcare services to the public.

**CONSENT:** Sometimes we also rely on the fact that you give us consent to use your personal and healthcare information so that we can take care of your healthcare needs.

Please note that you have the right to withdraw consent at any time if you no longer wish to receive services from us.

**NECESSARY CARE:** Providing you with the appropriate healthcare, where necessary. The Law refers to this as ‘protecting your vital interests’ where you may be in a position not to be able to consent.

**LAW:** Sometimes the Law obliges us to provide your information to an organisation (see above).

## **18. SPECIAL CATEGORIES**

The Law states that personal information about your health falls into a special category of information because it is very sensitive. Reasons that may entitle us to use and process your information may be as follows:

**PUBLIC INTEREST:** Where we may need to handle your personal information when it is considered to be in the public interest. For example, when there is an outbreak of a specific disease and we need to contact you for treatment, or we need to pass your information to relevant organisations to ensure you receive advice and/or treatment;

**CONSENT:** When you have given us consent;

**VITAL INTEREST:** If you are incapable of giving consent, and we have to use your information to protect your vital interests (e.g. if you have had an accident and you need emergency treatment);

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**DEFENDING A CLAIM:** If we need your information to defend a legal claim against us by you, or by another party;

**PROVIDING YOU WITH MEDICAL CARE:** Where we need your information to provide you with medical and healthcare services

## **19. CHILDREN**

There is a separate Privacy Notice for patients under the age of 16, a copy of which may be obtained on request or you can find this on the practice website at <http://www.greataytonhealthcentre.co.uk>.

## **20. IF ENGLISH IS NOT YOUR FIRST LANGUAGE**

If English is not your first language you can request a translation of this Privacy Notice. Please contact the practice [great.aytonsurgery@nhs.net](mailto:great.aytonsurgery@nhs.net).

## **21. OUR WEBSITE**

The only website this Privacy Notice applies to is the Surgery's website. If you use a link to any other website from the Surgery's website then you will need to read their respective Privacy Notice. We take no responsibility (legal or otherwise) for the content of other websites.

## **22. COOKIES**

The Surgery's website uses cookies. For more information on which cookies we use and how we use them, please see our Cookies Policy.

## **23. SECURITY**

We take the security of your information very seriously and we do everything we can to ensure that your information is always protected and secure. We regularly update our processes and systems and we also ensure that our staff are properly trained. We also carry out assessments and audits of the information that we hold about you and make sure that if we provide any other services, we carry out proper assessments and security reviews.

## **24. TELEPHONE CALL RECORDING**

We do not routinely record the telephone calls made to and from the Surgery. However, we reserve the right to record calls if we feel that it is appropriate, such as aggressive or abusive callers.

## **25. TEXT MESSAGING AND CONTACTING YOU**

Because we are obliged to protect any confidential information we hold about you and we take this very seriously, it is imperative that you let us know immediately if you change any of your contact details.

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We may contact you using SMS texting to your mobile phone in the event that we need to notify you about appointments and other services that we provide to you involving your direct care, therefore you must ensure that we have your up-to-date details. This is to ensure we are sure we are actually contacting you and not another person.

## **26. WHERE TO FIND OUR PRIVACY NOTICE**

You may find a copy of this Privacy Notice in the Surgery's reception, on our website, or a copy may be provided on request.

## **27. CHANGES TO OUR PRIVACY NOTICE**

We regularly review and update our Privacy Notice. This Privacy Notice was last updated on 23 February 2022.

## **28. COMPLAINTS**

In the event that you feel your GP Practice has not complied with the current data protection legislation, either in responding to your request or in our general processing of your personal information, you should raise your concerns in the first instance **in writing** to the Practice Manager at:

Great Ayton Health Centre, Rosehill, Great Ayton, Middlesbrough TS9 6BL

If you remain dissatisfied with our response you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wimslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF – Enquiry Line: 01625 545700 or online at [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)