

PRIVACY POLICY

Collection

It is necessary for us to collect personal information from patients and sometimes others associated with their health care in order to attend to their health needs and for associated administrative purposes.

Use and disclosure

A patient's personal health information is used for and disclosed for purposes directly related to their health care and in ways that are consistent with a patient's expectations. In the interests of the highest quality and continuity of health care this may include sharing information with other health care providers who comprise a patient's medical team from time to time. In addition there are circumstances when information has to be disclosed without patient consent, such as:

- Emergency situations
- By law, doctors are sometimes required to disclose information for public interest reasons, eg, mandatory reporting of some communicable diseases.
- It may be necessary to disclose information about a patient to fulfil a medical indemnity insurance obligation.
- Provision of information to Medicare or private health funds, if relevant, for billing and medical rebate purposes

In general a patient's health information will not be used for any other purposes without their consent. There are some necessary purposes of collection for which information will be used beyond providing health care, such as professional accreditation, quality assessments, clinical auditing, billing and so forth.

Data quality

All patient information held by this practice relevant to the functions of providing health care will be maintained in a form that is accurate, complete and up to date

Data security

The storage, use and, where necessary, transfer of personal health information will be undertaken in a secure manner that protects patient privacy. It is necessary for medical practices to keep patient information after a patient's last attendance for as long as is required by law or is prudent having regard to administrative requirements.

