



## HARLOR ROAD SURGERY

1 Harlow Road – Rainham RM13 7UP

### **PRIVACY NOTICE**

#### **Your Personal Information – what you need to know.**

This privacy notice explains why we collect information about you, how that information will be used, how we keep it safe and confidential and what your rights are in relation to this.

#### **Why we collect information about you**

Health care professionals who provide you with care are required by law to maintain records about your health and any treatment or care you have received. These records help to provide you with the best possible healthcare and help us to protect your safety.

We collect and hold data for the purpose of providing healthcare services to our patients and running our organisation which includes monitoring the quality of care that we provide. In carrying out this role we will collect information about you which helps us respond to your queries or secure specialist services. We will keep your information in written form and/or in digital form.

#### **Our Commitment to Data Privacy and Confidentiality Issues**

As a GP practice, all of our GPs, staff and associated practitioners are committed to protecting your privacy and will only process data in accordance with the Data Protection Legislation. This includes the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR), the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018, the Law Enforcement Directive (Directive (EU) 2016/680) (LED) and any applicable national Laws implementing them as amended from time to time. The legislation requires us to process personal data only if there is a legitimate basis for doing so and that any processing must be fair and lawful.

In addition, consideration will also be given to all applicable Law concerning privacy, confidentiality, the processing and sharing of personal data including the Human Rights Act 1998, the Health and Social Care Act 2012 as amended by the Health and Social Care (Safety and Quality) Act 2015, the common law duty of confidentiality and the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) regulations

## Data we collect about you

Records which this GP Practice will hold or share about you will include the following:

**Personal Data** – means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.

**Special Categories of Personal Data** – this term describes personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation

**Confidential Patient Information** – this term describes information or data relating to their health and other matters disclosed to another (e.g. patient to clinician) in circumstances where it is reasonable to expect that the information will be held in confidence. Including both information 'given in confidence' and 'that which is owed a duty of confidence'. As described in the Confidentiality: NHS code of Practice: Department of Health guidance on confidentiality 2003.

**Pseudonymised** – The process of distinguishing individuals in a dataset by using a unique identifier which does not reveal their 'real world' identity.

**Anonymised** – Data in a form that does not identify individuals and where identification through its combination with other data is not likely to take place

**Aggregated** – Statistical data about several individuals that has been combined to show general trends or values without identifying individuals within the data.

## How we use your information

Improvements in information technology are also making it possible for us to share data with other healthcare organisations for the purpose of providing you, your family and your community with better care. For example it is possible for healthcare professionals in other services to access your record with your permission when the practice is closed. This is explained further in the Local Information Sharing at Appendix A.

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 standards 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 use 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 only used like this where allowed by law. Most of time anonymised data is used for research and planning so cannot be identified in which case your confidential patient information isn't needed.

### **How long do we hold information for?**

All records held by the Practice will be kept for the duration specified by national guidance from NHS Digital, Health and Social Care Records Code of Practice. Once information that we hold has been identified for destruction it will be disposed of in the most appropriate way for the type of information it is. personal confidential and commercially confidential will be disposed of by approved and secure confidential waste procedure .we keep a record retention schedules which our information asset registers, in line with the records management code of practice for health and social care 2016.

### **National data opt-out**

The national data opt-out was introduced on 25 May 2018, enabling patients to opt-out from the use of their data for research or planning purposes, in line with the recommendations of the National Data Guardian in her Review of Data Security, Consent and Opt-Outs.

By 2020 all health and care organizations are required to apply national data opt-outs where confidential patient information is used for research and planning purposes. NHS Digital has been applying national data opt-outs since 25 May 2018. Public Health England has been applying national data opt-outs since September 2018.

The national data opt-out replaces the previous 'type 2' opt-out, which required NHS Digital not to share a patient's confidential patient information for purposes beyond their individual care. Any patient that had a type 2 opt-out recorded on or before 11 October 2018 has had it automatically converted to a national data opt-out. Those aged 13 or over were sent a letter giving them more information and a leaflet explaining the national data opt-out. For more information go to National data opt out programme.

<https://digital.nhs.uk/national-data-opt-out>

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

### **Right of Access to your information (Subject Access Request)**

Under Data Protection Legislation everybody has the right have access to, or request a copy of, information we hold that can identify you, this includes your medical record, there are some safeguards regarding what you will have access and you may find information has been redacted or removed for the following reasons;

- Does not cause harm to the patient
- That legal confidentiality obligations for the non-disclosure of third-party information are adhered to
- You do not need to give a reason to see your data and requests can be made verbally or in writing. Although we may ask you to complete a form in order that we can ensure that you have the correct information you require.
- Where multiple copies of the same information is requested the surgery may charge a reasonable fee for the extra copies.
- You will need to provide proof of identity to receive this information.

### **The NHS Care Record Guarantee**

The NHS Care Record Guarantee for England sets out the rules that govern how patient information is used in the NHS, what control the patient can have over this, the rights individuals have to request copies of their data and how data is protected under Data Protection Legislation.

### **The NHS Constitution**

The NHS Constitution establishes the principles and values of the NHS in England. It sets out the rights patients, the public and staff are entitled to. These rights cover how patients access health services, the quality of care you'll receive, the treatments and programs available to you, confidentiality, information and your right to complain if things go wrong.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-constitution-for-england>

**The Practice will share your information with these organisations where there is a legal basis to do so (please see privacy notices)**

## **Change of Details**

It is important that you tell the surgery if any of your contact details such as your name or address have changed especially if any of your other contacts details are incorrect. It is important that we are made aware of any changes immediately in order that no information is shared in error.

## **If you have any questions**

If you have any questions about the surgery, its policies or your data you may;

1. Contact the Practice Manager during surgery times
2. Write to us at Harlow Road Surgery, 1 Harlow Road, Rainham RM13 7UP

The Data Processing Officer (DPO) for our surgery is

NHS NEL Integrated Care Board  
4th Floor  
Unex Tower  
5 Station Road  
London  
E15 1DA  
itservicedesk.nelicb@nhs.net  
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