

# Grimethorpe Surgery

The Grimethorpe Centre  
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## PATIENT PRIVACY NOTICE

About the information we hold on  
you and who we share it with



Caring for Patients \*\*\* Caring for Data

# Introduction

Grimethorpe Surgery has a legal duty to explain how we use any personal information we collect about you, as a registered patient, at the practice. Staff members at this practice maintain records about your health and the treatment you receive in electronic and paper format.

In accordance with Article 5 of the GDPR, this practice will ensure that any personal data is:

- Processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject
- Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which it is processed
- Accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that is inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which it is processed, is erased or rectified without delay
- Kept in a form that permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data is processed
- Processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

# Information We Collect

## Registration Information

You are required to give some information to register at our Practice, such as your name, address, date of birth, gender, nationality, main spoken language, landline and mobile telephone number and email address. We also gather some information about your health at this point for us to start our care as soon as possible. We ask for any long-term conditions you may have, allergies, smoking and alcohol data. Over the years we may gather information about people who help care for you and your legal representatives.

## Your Medical Record

When we inform the NHS you are registering with us, they will request your full and complete medical record from your previous practice. This will either come on paper by NHS Courier or electronically. We check either/both the electronic copy or the paper copy to make sure everything we need to know about your health is on our electronic record. We will then add to your medical record every time you contact or visit the surgery. Our clinicians will enter details of your appointments with them and of any referrals to other services. We receive letters from any other service involved in your care:

- Hospital specialities, Accident and Emergency and Out of ours or Walk-in Centres
- Community Care providers e.g. Physiotherapy, Mental Health, District or Community Nurses, Macmillan Nurses,

- Social Care services, Safeguarding for both Adults and Children
- Social Prescribers

Our records relating to your health care are held in a system called EMIS WEB provided by a company called EGTON. This system is one of four nationally accredited systems used by GPs for the purpose of holding records. The system has numerous safeguards to ensure your records are held securely and confidentially, for example only appropriately authorised members of the care team are able to access your records, and an audit trail is kept showing who has accessed your record.

## Information We Receive From Your Use of On-line Services

We may ask you to sign-up for our online services. This allows you to order your medication online or book and cancel appointments. We do not keep any details about your device but when you book or cancel appointments this is logged on your medical record. If you order medication then that is also held on your medical record.

## How We Use Information

### Direct Personal Care

Under the GDPR we will lawfully use your information in accordance with:-

*Article 6, e) processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller*

*Article 9, h) processing is necessary for the purpose of preventive or occupational medicine for the assessment of the working capacity of the employee, medical diagnosis, the provision of health or social care or treatment or the management of health and social care systems*

We use the information we record to provide you with direct health care. We also use it to plan and invite patients to special clinics and reviews, for example a long term condition annual review, smoke stop and weight management clinics and flu clinics for those eligible. Information may be used within the practice for clinical audit to monitor the service we provide.

## Communicate With You

We use your information when need to inform you about clinics and appointments and may contact you via post, telephone or SMS message. We will only contact you about your own personal health care and will never discuss anything with anyone other than you unless you have given you written consent for us to do so.

## How Information Is Shared

### For Your Direct Care

If we need to refer you to another health care provider for

example a Hospital Specialist we will share some of your personal data with them to enable them to offer you appropriate direct care. We will share your name and address and telephone numbers, your current problems and medication. Details relating to the health problem you are being referred for and any allergies they should know about.

Recent improvements to the system's functionality mean that GPs and other health professionals working for other organisations providing care in Barnsley can also view your record as long as they are directly involved in your care. This will ensure you receive the highest standards of care since everyone involved in your care will have access to complete and up to date information. It also means you won't have to repeat details of your medical history multiple times. All organisations sharing data in this way work to the same high standards of data security and confidentiality. If you do not wish your information to be shared in this way please speak to the Practice Manager."

## For The National Screening Programmes

Some of your data is provided to Public Health England to make sure you are invited for all relevant national screening programs such as smears, breast and bowel cancer screening.

## For National planning of Health and Social Care

Information from your medical record may be used to

protect the health of the public and to help us manage the NHS. Some of this information will be held centrally and used for statistical purposes but where we do this we take strict measures to ensure that individual patients cannot be identified. Sometimes your information may be requested for research purposes but the surgery will always gain your consent before releasing this information.

In order to comply with its legal obligations, this 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 the data that is required by NHS Digital when the law allows. This may include demographic data, such as date of birth, and information about your health for example 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 GDPR.

## With our Partner Organisations

Where it is in your interest to do so or when we are required to, we may also share your information, subject to strict agreements on how it will be used, with the following organisations:

- NHS Trusts, other GP's and Local Authorities (including Social Care and Education Services) and Private Sector Providers

- Ambulance Trusts, Police Services, Fire and Rescue Services
- Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Other 'data processors' working on behalf of the NHS and Local Authorities e.g. Embed Health Consortium and NECS
- Voluntary Sector Providers working on behalf of or with the NHS and Local Authorities
- Independent Contractors such as dentists, opticians, pharmacists
- Governmental Regulators
- The Practice also shares the full patient record to Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) clinicians for direct care purposes and demographic details to allow direct appointment booking.

## Risk Stratification

Your information from health and social care records (but with names, addresses etc. removed) is looked at by your local NHS ICB, alongside that of others patients, to identify groups of patients who would benefit from some extra help from their GP or care team. This is known as 'Risk Stratification'.

The aim is to prevent ill health and possible future hospital stays, rather than wait for you to become sick.

The CCG, due to strict rules to maintain confidentiality, is typically limited to using NHS Numbers and postcodes for risk stratification work. Only GPs and care teams are



allowed to use this information to be able to see which individuals need this extra help.

**Changes to This Policy** - We will notify you before we make material changes to this policy and give you an opportunity to review the revised policy before deciding if you would like to continue to use the Services.

## For Legal Reasons or To Prevent Harm

We may preserve or disclose information about you to comply with a law, regulation, legal process, or governmental request; to assert legal rights or defend against legal claims; or to prevent, detect, or investigate illegal activity, fraud, abuse, violations of our terms, or threats to the security of the Services or the physical safety of any person.

We will only ever pass on information about you to others involved in your care if there is a genuine need for it. We work within the information sharing principles following Dame Fiona Caldicott's information sharing review, where "The duty to share can be as important as the duty to protect patient confidentiality".

## Your Rights to Access and Check Your Personal Data

We are committed to maintaining confidentiality and protecting the information we hold about you. We adhere to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the NHS Codes of Confidentiality and Security, as well as guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

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. Furthermore, should you identify any inaccuracies; you have a right to have the inaccurate data corrected.

## National data opt-out Facility

The national data opt-out programme will give patients the opportunity to make an informed choice about whether they wish their confidential patient information to be used just for their individual care and treatment or also used for research and planning purposes.

Please visit [nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters](https://nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters).

## Data Retention

### Your GP Practice

We keep your account information, like your name, email address and password, for as long as you are registered at this practice. If you decide to register elsewhere your record will be passed to your new GP practice by a mixture of paper and electronic transfer.

More information on records retention can be found online at (<https://digital.nhs.uk/article/1202/Records-Management-Code-of-Practice-for-Health-and-SocialCare-2016>)

The NHS retains your records for 10 years after your death.

## Information Security

We are committed to protect your privacy and will only use your information lawfully in accordance with:

- Data Protection Act 1998 and General Data Protection Regulation 2018
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Common Law Duty of Confidentiality
- Health and Social Care Act 2012
- NHS Code of Confidentiality, Information Security and Records Management

## Data Protection Officer:

The Practice Data Protection Officer is Caroline Million, Independent DPO and IG Specialist. Any queries regarding Data Protection issues should be addressed to her at: -

Email: [caroline.million@outlook.com](mailto:caroline.million@outlook.com)

(updated 22 July 2025)

