

Ashfield medical Centre privacy notice for Patients and Staff privacy notice

We understand how important it is to keep your personal information safe and secure and we take this very seriously. We have taken steps to make sure your personal information is looked after in the best possible way and we review this regularly.

Please read this privacy notice ('Privacy Notice') carefully, as it contains important information about how we use the personal and healthcare information we collect on your behalf.

Our contact details as data controller

Name: Ashfield Medical Centre and The Grange Medical Centre

Address: : 15 Austhorpe Road, Leeds, LS15 8BA

Phone number: 01132951828

Email: Ashfield15.Reception@nhs.net

We are the data controller for your information. A controller decides on why and how information is used and shared.

The practice is registered with the Information Commissioners Office as a Data Controller- our registration number is: **Z1244980** and you can view our registration here <https://ico.org.uk/ESDWebPages/Search>

Data Protection Officer contact details

Our Data Protection Officer is **Aaron Linden** and is responsible for monitoring our compliance with data protection requirements. You can contact them with queries or concerns relating to the use of your personal data at wyicb-leeds.dpo@nhs.net

Why we collect your information?

As a GP practice we are responsible for your day-to-day medical care and the purpose of this notice is to inform you of the type of information that we hold about you, how that information is used for your care, our legal basis for using the information, who we share this information with and how we keep it secure and confidential.

It covers information we collect directly from you (that you have either provided to us, or from consultations with staff members), or we collect from other organisations who manage your care (such as hospitals or community services).

We are required by law to maintain records about your health and treatment, or the care you have received within any NHS service.

These records help to ensure that you receive the best possible care. They may be paper or electronic and they may include:

- Basic details about you such as name, address, email address, NHS number, date of birth, next of kin, etc.
- Contact we have had with you such as appointments or clinic visits.
- Notes and reports about your health, treatment and care
- Details of diagnosis and treatment given
- Information about any allergies or health conditions.
- Results of x-rays, scans and laboratory tests.
- Relevant information from people who care for you and know you well such as health care professionals and relatives.
- For visitors to the practice basic information such as name and vehicle registration number

By providing the Practice with their contact details, patients are agreeing to the Practice using those channels to communicate with them about their healthcare, i.e. by letter (postal address), by voice mail or voice message (telephone or mobile number), by text message (mobile number) or by email (email address).

You can find more detailed information about how we use your information for the following specific purposes here:

- Primary Care Networks
- For commissioning and healthcare planning
- Population Health Management
- Leeds Care Record
- Summary Care Record
- Research - [Find out](#) how health researchers use information.
- Safeguarding, life or death situations and other circumstances we are required to share information.

What information do we collect?

Personal information

We currently collect and use the following personal information:

- personal identifiers and contacts (for example, name and contact details)

More sensitive information

We process the following more sensitive data (including special category data):

- data concerning physical or mental health (for example, details about your appointments or diagnosis)

- data revealing racial or ethnic origin
- data concerning a person's sex life
- data concerning a person's sexual orientation
- genetic data (for example, details about a DNA sample taken from you as part of a genetic clinical service)
- data revealing religious or philosophical beliefs
- data relating to criminal or suspected criminal offences

How do we use your information and how do we get it?

As health professionals, we maintain records about you to direct, manage, and deliver the care you receive. By registering with the practice, your existing records will be transferred to us from your previous practice so that we can keep them up to date while you are our patient and if you do not have a previous medical record (a new-born child or coming from overseas, for example), we will create a medical record for you.

We take great care to ensure that your information is kept securely, that it is up to date, accurate and used appropriately. In the practice, individual staff will only look at what they need in order to carry out tasks such as booking appointments, making referrals, supporting your care, or to support the management of the services we provide.

The personal information we collect is provided directly from you for one of the following reasons:

- you have provided information to seek care – this is used directly for your care, and also to manage the services we provide, to clinically audit our services, investigate complaints, or to be used as evidence as part of an investigation into care
- if you have signed up to our newsletter / patient participation group, we will engage with you to seek your comments and views on the practice.
- If you have made a complaint we will need to collect information about the complaint which will include your personal information. We may also need to gain additional information from, or share information we have with, other healthcare providers and NHS organisations in order to process and investigate your complaint.

We also receive personal information about you from others, in the following scenarios:

- from other health and care organisations involved in your care so that we can provide you with care
- from family members or carers to support your care

- If you register with us from another practice, your historic GP notes are transferred to us from your old practice. [This can happen electronically](#) and [your paper notes are transferred via an organisation called Primary Care Support England](#)

The NHS care record guarantee

The Care Record Guarantee is our commitment that we will use records about you in ways that respect your rights and promote your health and wellbeing. Copies of the full document can be obtained from:

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20130513181549/http://www.nigb.nhs.uk/guarantee>

Primary Care Networks:

All practices in the UK are members of a [Primary Care Network \(PCN\)](#), which is a group of practices who have chosen to work together and with local community, mental health, social care, pharmacy, hospital and voluntary services to provide care to their patients.

PCNs are built on the core of current primary care services and enable greater provision of proactive, personalised, coordinated and more integrated health and social care.

We are members of Crossgates PCN along with Colton and The Grange Medical Centre, Manston Surgery and Family Doctors are the other practices in our PCN.

This arrangement means that practices within the same PCN may share data with other practices within the PCN, for the purpose of patient care (such as extended hours appointments and other services), Each practice within the PCN is part of a stringent data sharing agreement that means that all patient data shared is treated with the same obligations of confidentiality and data security.

For commissioning and healthcare planning purposes:

In some cases, for example when looking at population healthcare needs, some of your data may be shared (usually in such a way that you cannot be identified from it). The following organisations may use data in this way to inform policy or make decisions about general provision of healthcare, either locally or nationally.

- [Leeds City Council](#): Public Health, Adult or Child Social Care Services
- [West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board](#) (or their approved data processors)
- [NHS Digital](#) (Formerly known as (HSCIC)
- The “[Clinical Practice Research Datalink](#)” (EMISWeb practices) or [ResearchOne Database](#) (SystmOne practices).
- Other data processors which you will be informed of as appropriate.

In order to comply with its legal obligations we may send data to NHS Digital when directed by the Secretary of State for Health under the [Health and Social Care Act 2012](#).

This practice contributes to national clinical audits and will send the data which are 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.

Population Health Management:

Population Health Management (PHM) is about improving the physical and mental health of people. It involves analysing data, in a format which does not identify individuals, and using the results to help making decisions on ways to prevent ill-health, improve care, reduce hospital admissions and help ensure that the most effective services are available for our patients.

The benefits of PHM are:

- to help frontline teams understand current health and care needs and predict what will be needed in the future.
- to identify specific groups of patients that are high risk and would benefit from direct interventions to improve their health and wellbeing.
- to improving the standard and quality of care.
- to prevent people needing hospital care unless necessary
- to support Working across different organisations in the health and care sector, to a positive difference to people's lives. This can be supported by joining the data dots to tackle health inequalities we know exist across West Yorkshire.
- to identify gaps in services, as well as inform service redesigns.

We, and other healthcare providers like the hospital and community service providers, send information that relates to you to our data processor the [North of England Commissioning Support Unit \(NECS\)](#). NECS then pseudonymise this data, which means the information that could identify you is removed and is replaced with a pseudonym. Information about the different health and care interventions you have had is then linked together so that it can be analysed without identifying you.

This pseudonymised data is then shared with West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board who will analyse the data to carry out commissioning and planning services and Population Health Management. Sometimes this analysis identifies individuals who might benefit from direct interventions to prevent illness. The results relating to patients registered at our practice are sent back to us so that we can assess who would benefit or require a particular healthcare intervention.

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 not want your data to be used in this way, you can opt-out of all planning and research initiatives through the national data opt-out service. Access this service online at www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters or by calling: 0300 303 5678.

Leeds Care Record

[The Leeds Care Record \(LCR\)](#) provides health and social care professionals directly involved in your care access to the most up to date information about you. It does this by sharing appropriate information from your medical and care records between health and social care services in Leeds.

At the moment, every health and social care organisation that you use has a different set of patient records for you. These records may duplicate information, or one record might hold information about your treatment, care and support that another one does not.

In Leeds, we have developed a virtual system called the Leeds Care Record. If you live in Leeds you will have a Leeds Care Record created for you. It is held on a secure computer system and includes some key health and social care information about you. The information is taken from other medical records you may have such as your GP record, hospital records or social care records.

If you do not want your information being shared on the LCR [you can object to this, by contacting the LCR](#).

Summary Care Record

[Your Summary Care Record \(SCR\)](#) is a short summary of your GP medical records. It tells other health and care staff who care for you about the medicines you take and your allergies.

All patients registered with a GP have a SCR, unless they have chosen not to have one. Your SCR contains basic information about allergies and medications and any reactions that you have had to medication in the past.

Some patients, including many with long term health conditions, have previously agreed to have [Additional Information](#) shared as part of their Summary Care Record. This additional information includes information about significant medical history (past and present), reasons for medications, care plan information and immunisations.

The purpose of SCR is to improve the care that you receive, however, [if you don't want to have an SCR you have the option to opt out](#). If this is your preference please inform your GP or fill in an [SCR patient consent preferences form](#) and return it to your GP practice.

For research purposes

Research data is usually shared in a way that individual patients are non-identifiable. Occasionally where research requires identifiable information you may be asked for your explicit consent to participate in specific research projects. The surgery will always gain your consent before releasing any information for this purpose, unless the research has been granted a specific exemption from the [Confidentiality Advisory Group of the Health Research Authority](#)

Where specific information is asked for, such as under the [National Diabetes audit](#), you will be given the choice to opt of the audit.

For safeguarding purposes, life or death situations or other circumstances when we are required to share information:

The Practice is dedicated to ensuring that the principles and duties of safeguarding adults and children are holistically, consistently and conscientiously applied with the wellbeing of all, at the heart of what we do.

We may also disclose your information to others in exceptional circumstances (i.e. life or death situations) or in accordance with Dame Fiona Caldicott's information sharing review (Information to share or not to share).

For example, your information may be shared in the following circumstances:

- When we have a duty to others e.g. in child protection cases
- Where we are required by law to share certain information such as the birth of a new baby, infectious diseases that may put you or others at risk or where a Court has decided we must.

Who do we share information with?

We share information about you with other health professionals to support your care, and in more limited ways for indirect care purposes:

- NHS Trusts and hospitals that are involved in your care.
- Community Care Teams
- West Yorkshire ICB
- Care homes
- Other General Practitioners (GPs) or Primary Care Networks (which are groups of GP Practices).
- Ambulance Services.
- Social Care Services.
- Education Services.
- Local Authorities.
- Police and Judicial Services
- Fire and Rescue Services
- NHS England and NHS Digital
- Voluntary and private sector providers working with or for the NHS. Such as Dentists, Pharmacies. Opticians & care homes
- Other 'data processors'

Sometimes we may provide information about you in an anonymised form. Such information is used to analyse population-level health issues and helps the NHS to

plan better services. If we share information for these purposes, then none of the information will identify you as an individual and cannot be traced back to you.

From time to time we may offer you referrals to other providers, specific to your own health needs not included in the list above. In these cases we will discuss the referral with you and advise you that we will be sharing your information (generally by referral) with those organisations.

We may also share information with the following types of organisations:

- third party data processors
 - IT system supplier (West Yorkshire ICB / Leeds City Council)
 - Software suppliers (SystmOne, EMIS)
 - Communication suppliers (telephony services, email, text messages)

In some circumstances we are legally obliged to share information. This includes:

- when required by NHS England to develop national IT and data services
- when registering births and deaths
- when reporting some infectious diseases
- when a court orders us to do so
- where a public inquiry requires the information
- Medical examiners

We will also share information if the public good outweighs your right to confidentiality. This could include:

- to detect, prevent or investigate crime
- where there are serious risks to the public or staff
- to protect children or vulnerable adults

We may also process your information in order to de-identify it, so that it can be used for purposes beyond your individual care whilst maintaining your confidentiality. These purposes will include to comply with the law and for public interest reasons.

Is information transferred outside the UK?

As a GP surgery, we do not routinely send patient data outside of the UK / EU where the [laws do not protect your privacy to the same extent as the law in the UK.](#)

Our data is hosted in UK and is only available to our staff and technical support staff in the UK. We will never sell any information about you.

No third parties have access to your personal data unless the law allows them to do so and appropriate safeguards have been put in place.

What is our lawful basis for using information?

Under UK GDPR the Practice are mandated to identify a legal basis to process your

personal information.

For personal data

- 6(1)(a) - Consent: this must be freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous.
- 6(1)(b) - Contract: between a person and a service, such as a service user and privately funded care home.
- 6(1)(c) - Legal obligation: the law requires us to do this, for example where NHS England or the courts use their powers to require the data. See [this list](#) for the most likely laws that apply when using and sharing information in health and care.
- 6(1)(d) - Vital interests: Life & Death
- 6(1)(e) - Public task: a public body, such as an NHS organisation or Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered social care organisation, is required to undertake particular activities by law. See [this list](#) for the most likely laws that apply when using and sharing information in health and care.

Special Category data (Sensitive Data including Health Records)

- 9(2)(a) - Explicit consent
- 9(2)(b) - Employment, social security and social protection (if authorised by law)
- 9(2)(c) - Vital interests – Life and Death
- 9(2)(e) - Made public by the data subject
- 9(2)(f) - Legal claims or judicial acts
- 9(2)(g) - Reasons of substantial public interest (with a basis in law)
- 9(2)(h) - Health or social care (with a basis in law)
- 9(2)(i) - Public health (with a basis in law)

Everyone working for the NHS has a legal and contractual duty to keep information about you confidential.

Common law duty of confidentiality

In our use of health and care information, we satisfy the common law duty of confidentiality because:

- you have provided us with your consent (we have taken it as implied to provide you with care, or you have given it explicitly for other uses)
- we have support from the Secretary of State for Health and Care following an application to the [Confidentiality Advisory Group \(CAG\)](#) who are satisfied that it isn't possible or practical to seek consent
- we have a legal requirement to collect, share and use the data
- for specific individual cases, we have assessed that the public interest to share the data overrides the public interest served by protecting the duty of confidentiality (for example sharing information with the police to support the

detection or prevention of serious crime). This will always be considered on a case by case basis, with careful assessment of whether it is appropriate to share the particular information, balanced against the public interest in maintaining a confidential health service

How do we protect your personal information?

As a Practice, we are committed to protecting your privacy and will only process data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Data Protection Act 2018, the Common Law Duty of Confidentiality, professional codes of practice, the Human Rights Act 1998 and other appropriate legislation.

Everyone working for the Practice has a legal and contractual duty to keep information about you confidential. All our staff receive appropriate and ongoing training to ensure that they are aware of their personal responsibilities and their obligations to uphold confidentiality.

Staff are trained to ensure how to recognise and report any incident and the organisation has procedures for investigating, managing and learning lessons from any incidents that occur.

All identifiable information that we hold about you in an electronic format will be held [securely and confidentially in secure hosted servers that pass stringent security standards](#).

Any companies or organisations we use we may use to process your data are also legally and contractually bound to operate under the same security and confidentiality requirements.

All identifiable information we hold about you within paper records is kept securely and confidentially in lockable cabinets with access restricted to appropriately authorised staff.

As an organisation we are required to provide annual evidence of our compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and standards through the [Data Security and Protection toolkit](#).

Your information is securely stored for the time periods specified in the [Records Management Code of Practice](#).

All records are retained and destroyed in accordance with the NHS Records Management Code of Practice.

The Practice does not keep patient records for longer than necessary and all records are destroyed confidentially once their retention period has been met, and the Practice has made the decision that the records are no longer required.

What are your data protection rights?

Under the GDPR all patients have certain rights in relation to the information which the practice holds about them. Not all of these will rights apply equally, as certain rights are not available depending on situation and the lawful basis used for the processing.

For reference these rights may not apply are where the lawful basis we use (as shown in the above table in the section on “lawful bases”) is:

- Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller – in these cases the rights of erasure and portability will not apply.
- Legal Obligation – in these cases the rights of erasure, portability, objection, automated decision making and profiling will not apply.

Right to be informed

[You have the right to be informed of how your data is being used](#). The propose of this document is to advise you of this right and how your data is being used by the practice

The right of access

[You have the right of access](#) You have the right to ask us for copies of your personal information, this is often referred to as a ‘Subject Access Request’. This right always applies. There are some exemptions, which means you may not always receive all the information we process.

You can make a subject access request by requesting a SARS form from our reception team.

The right to rectification

[You have the right to ask us to rectify information you think is inaccurate](#). You also have the right to ask us to complete information you think is incomplete. This right always applies.

The right to erasure

[You have the right to ask us to erase your personal information in certain circumstances-](#) This will not generally apply in the matter of health care data

The right to restrict processing

[You have the right to ask us to restrict the processing of your information in certain circumstances-](#) You have to right to limit the way in which your data is processed if you are not happy with the way the data has been managed.

The right to object

[You have the right to object to processing](#) if you disagree with the way in which part of your data is processed you can object to this- please bear in mind that this may affect the medical services we are able to offer you

Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.

[Your rights in relation to automated processing](#) - Sometimes your information may be used to run automated calculations. These can be as simple as calculating your Body Mass Index or ideal weight but they can be more complex and used to calculate your probability of developing certain clinical conditions, and we will discuss these with you if they are a matter of concern.

No decisions about individual care are made solely on the outcomes of these tools, they are only used to help us assess your possible future health and care needs with you and we will discuss these with you.

The right to data portability

[Your right to data portability](#) you have the right to ask that we transfer the information you gave us from one organisation to another. The right only applies if we are processing information based on your consent or under a contract, and the processing is automated, so will only apply in very limited circumstances

National data opt-out

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 lawful basis to use this information. All these uses help to provide better health and care for you, your family and future generations. Confidential health and care information is only used like this when allowed by law.

Whenever possible data used for research and planning is anonymised, so that you cannot be identified and your confidential information is not accessed.

You have a choice about whether you want your confidential 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 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-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
- 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.

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.

Our organisation has reviewed the disclosures we make and is compliant with the national data opt-out policy.

What should I do if my personal information changes?

You should tell us so that we can update our records please contact the Practice as soon as any of your details change, this is especially important for changes of address or contact details (such as your mobile phone number), the Practice will from time to time ask you to confirm that the information we currently hold is accurate and up-to-date.

How do I complain?

If you have any concerns about our use of your personal information, you can make a complaint to us by clicking on the following link to our website [Complaint Procedure - Drs Walling & Nathan](#) or collecting a form in person

Following this, if you are still unhappy with how we have used your data, you can then complain to the ICO.

The ICO's address is:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113

ICO website: <https://www.ico.org.uk>

Date of last review

This privacy notice was reviewed and updated in June 2025.

Other ways we use your information

SMS Text messaging

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 can be confident that we are actually contacting you and not another person.

As this is operated on an 'opt out' basis we will assume that you give us permission to contact you via SMS if you have provided us with your mobile telephone number. Please let us know if you wish to opt out of this SMS service. We may also contact you using the email address you have provided to us. Please ensure that we have your up to date details.

CCTV

CCTV is installed Grange Site only covering both the external area of the building and the internal area excluding consulting rooms in order to:

- protect staff, patients, visitors and Practice property
- apprehend and prosecute offenders, and provide evidence to take criminal or civil court action
- provide a deterrent effect and reduce unlawful activity
- help provide a safer environment for our staff
- monitor operational and safety related incidents
- help to provide improved services, for example by enabling staff to see patients and visitors requiring assistance

We will only retain surveillance data for 30 days at which point they are automatically deleted.

Medical Examiners

Following the death of any patients of Ashfield Medical Centre we are now obliged to inform Leeds NHS Trust, Medical Examiner Service.

Medical examiner offices at acute trusts now provide independent scrutiny of non-coronial deaths occurring in acute hospitals. The role of these offices is now being extended to also cover deaths occurring in the community.

Medical examiner offices are led by medical examiners, senior doctors from a range of specialties including general practice, who provide independent scrutiny of deaths not taken at the outset for coroner investigation. They put the bereaved at the centre of processes after the death of a patient by giving families and next of kin an opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns. Medical examiners carry out a

proportionate review of medical records and liaise with doctors completing the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD).

The Practice will share any patient information with the service upon request.

Medicines Management

The Practice may conduct Medicines Management reviews of medications prescribed to its patients under a processing arrangement with the Medicines Management Team at West Yorkshire ICB. This service performs a review of prescribed medications to ensure patients receive the most appropriate, up to date and cost-effective treatments. Sometimes a third-party data processor is used to carry out these reviews on behalf of the practice. The third-party will need to sign up to very robust data processing agreements and other clear arrangements in place to ensure your data is always protected and used for those purposes only.

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 ICBs 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.

GP Connect Service

The GP Connect service allows authorised clinical staff at NHS 111 to seamlessly access our practice’s clinical system and book directly on behalf of a patient. This means that should you call NHS 111 and the clinician believes you need an appointment with your GP Practice, the clinician will access available appointment slots only (through GP Connect) and book you in. This will save you time as you will not need to contact the Practice direct for an appointment.

The Practice will not be sharing any of your data and the Practice will only allow NHS 111 to see available appointment slots. They will not even have access to your record. However, NHS 111 will share any relevant data with us, but you will be made aware of this. This will help your GP in knowing what treatment / service / help you may require.

Please note if you no longer require the appointment or need to change the date and time for any reason you will need to speak to one of our reception staff and not NHS 111.

IGPR

We use a data processor, iGPR Technologies Limited (“iGPR”), to assist us with responding to report requests relating to your patient data, such as subject access requests that you submit to us (or that someone acting on your behalf submits to us) and report requests that insurers submit to us under the Access to Medical Records

Act 1988 in relation to a life insurance policy that you hold or that you are applying for.

iGPR manages the reporting process for us by reviewing and responding to requests in accordance with our instructions and all applicable laws, including UK data protection laws.

The instructions we issue to iGPR include general instructions on responding to requests and specific instructions on issues that will require further consultation with the GP responsible for your care.