

Where can I get further information?

If you have any questions regarding our patient confidentiality policy please ask your GP, practice nurse or speak with our Practice manager

However should you need further answers the following may be useful:-

Data Protection Act (1998)

www.legislation.org.uk

British Medical Association

Medical Ethics Department,
BMA House,
Tavistock Square, London
WC1H 9JP.

Tel: 020 7383 6286

Fax: 020 7383 6233

Web: www.bma.org.uk/ethics

South Holderness Medical Practice

Surgeries at:

St Nicholas Surgery

Queen Street

Withernsea

HU19 2PZ

Tel: 01964 613221

Fax : 01964 614247

St Patricks Surgery

St Patricks Green

Patrington

HU12 0PF

Tel: 01964 613221

Tel: 01964 631618

Hodgson Lane Surgery

Hodgson Lane

Roos

HU12 0LF

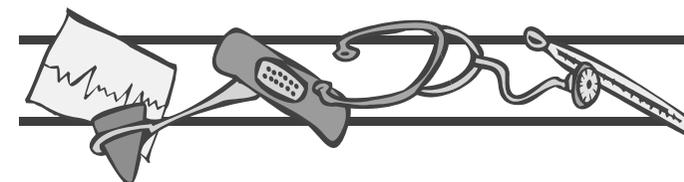
Tel: 01964 613221

Fax: 01964 671449

A BRIEF GUIDE

TO

PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY & DISCLOSURE



IS MY INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL?

WHO HAS ACCESS TO MY INFORMATION?

PRODUCED FOR THE PATIENTS AND VISITORS
OF SOUTH HOLDERNESS MEDICAL PRACTICE.

How is my information treated?

All patient information is considered confidential this includes name, address, date of birth, medical history etc and we fully comply with the Data Protection Act. Your information may be shared, in confidence, with other NHS organisations in the interest of patient care.

All employees of this surgery have access to your information in relation to their role, and will only access your information should their job role deem it necessary. South Holderness Medical Practice ensure that all employees fully understand their responsibilities with regard to confidential data and we as an organisation will ensure that all paper waste containing confidential data is disposed of correctly.

We strictly apply the rules of confidentiality and in general will not release patient information to a third party without proper valid and informed consent, unless this is within the statutory exempted category, please see "Using and disclosing information", in which case the information and reason for its release will be authorised and documented by the responsible clinician.

What about parents or guardians access to data?

The principles of confidentiality apply equally to all patients regardless of age. Young people (including those under 16) are entitled to the same confidentiality as all other patients, this includes respecting their wishes to withhold information from parents or guardians. The GP involved will determine the competency of the young person seeking treatment and will determine the extent to which confidentiality guidelines apply in each individual case.

The GP will support any young person in exercising their choice of medical treatment and will deal with them in a sympathetic and confidential manner. When a young person attends the surgery without adult support they may still be seen by a clinician. Each case will be treated individually and assessed on a case by case basis.

Using and disclosing information.

Standards of confidentiality apply to all health professionals and ancillary staff, such as receptionists, cleaners, practice managers and secretaries. They must not reveal to anyone outside the practice personal information they learn in the course of their work. Without the patients consent. However disclosure may be necessary if a patient or another person is at risk of serious harm which disclosure to an appropriate person would prevent. The relevant health professional may take advice from colleagues or professional bodies in order to decide if disclosure without consent is justified to protect the patient or another person. If the decision to disclose is made then the patient should be informed unless this poses a serious risk. Any decision to disclose information to protect an individual is based on the degree of potential or current harm, not the age of the patient.