



PRIVACY NOTICE

The practice aims to meet the requirements of the **Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**, the guidelines on the Information Commissioner's website as well as our professional guidelines and requirements.

The data controller is Miss S Revell, who is also the information Governance Lead.

This Privacy Notice is available on the practice website at www.watford-dental.com / at reception/ by email if you contact info@watford-dental.com or by calling the practice on **01923 225 437**

You will be asked to provide personal information when joining the practice. The purpose of us processing this data is to provide optimum health care to you.

The categories of data we process are:

- Personal data for the purposes of staff and self-employed team member management
- Personal data for the purposes of [direct mail/email/text/other] marketing
- Special category data including health records for the purposes of the delivery of health care
- Special category data including health records and details of criminal record checks for managing employees and contracted team members

We never pass your personal details to a third party unless we have a contract for them to process data on our behalf and will otherwise keep it confidential. If we intend to refer a patient to another practitioner or to secondary care such as a hospital we will gain the individual's permission **before** the referral is made and the personal data is shared.

- [Personal data is stored in the [EU] whether in digital or hard copy format]
- [Personal data is stored in the US in digital format when the data storage company is certified with the EU-US Privacy Shield]
- Personal data is obtained when a patient joins the practice, when a patient is referred to the practice and [when a patient subscribes to an email list]

The lawful basis for processing special category data such as patients' and employees' health data is:

- *Processing is necessary for the purposes of preventative or occupational medicine, for assessing the working capacity of the employee, medical diagnosis, the provision of health or social care or treatment or management of health or social care systems and services on the basis of Union or Member State law or a contract with a health professional*
- *[Other]*

The lawful basis of processing personal data such as name, address, email or phone number is:

- Consent of the data subject
- Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract with the data subject or to take steps to enter into a contract
- [Other]



The retention period for special data in patient records is a minimum of 10 years and may be longer for complex records in order to meet our legal requirements. The retention period for staff records is 6 years. The retention periods for other personal data are 2 years after it was last processed. Details of other retention periods are available in the Record Retention (M 215) procedure available from the practice.

You have the following personal data rights:

- The right to be informed
- The right of access
- The right to rectification
- The right to erasure (clinical records must be retained for a certain time period)
- The right to restrict processing
- The right to data portability
- The right to object

Further details of these rights can be seen in our Information Governance Procedures (M 217C) or at the [Information Commissioner's website](#). Here are some practical examples of your rights:

- If you **are** a patient of the practice you have the right to withdraw consent for important notifications, newsletters, surveys or marketing. You can inform us to correct errors in your personal details or withdraw consent from communication methods such as telephone, email or text. You have the right to obtain a free copy of your patient records within one month.
- If you are **not** a patient of the practice you have the right to withdraw consent for processing personal data, to have a free copy of it within one month, to correct errors in it or to ask us to delete it. You can also withdraw consent from communication methods such as telephone, email or text.

We have carried out a Privacy Impact Assessment (M 217S) and you can request a copy from the details below. The details of how we ensure security of personal data is in our Security Risk Assessment (M 217M) and Information Governance Procedures (M 217C).

Comments, suggestions and complaints

Please contact **Miss S Revell** at the practice for a comment, suggestion or a complaint about your data processing at info@watford-dental.com or call **01923 225 437** or by writing to or visiting the practice at **205 St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 5BH**. We take complaints very seriously.

If you are unhappy with our response or if you need any advice you should contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). Their telephone number is 0303 123 1113, you can also [chat online with an advisor](#). The ICO can investigate your claim and take action against anyone who's misused personal data. You can also visit their website for information on [how to make a data protection complaint](#).

Related practice procedures

You can also use these contact details to request copies of the following practice policies or procedures:

- Data Protection and Information Security Policy (M 233-DPT), Consent Policy (M 233-CNS)
- Privacy Impact Assessment (M 217S), Information Governance Procedures (M 217C)



Data Opt-Out Policy

How the NHS and care services use your information

Watford Dental Practice is one of many organisations working in the health and care system to improve care for patients and the public. 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 is **only used** like this where allowed by law.

Most of the time, anonymised data is used for research and planning so that you cannot be identified in which case your confidential patient information isn't needed.

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 choose to opt out your confidential patient 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 also find out more about how patient information is used at:

<https://www.hra.nhs.uk/information-about-patients/> (which covers health and care research); and <https://understandingpatientdata.org.uk/what-you-need-know> (which covers how and why patient information is used, the safeguards and how decisions are made)

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.

Health and care organisations have until 2020 to put systems and processes in place so they can be compliant with the national data opt-out and apply your choice to any confidential patient information they use or share for purposes beyond your individual care.

Our practice only uses your personal health data to provide individualised care to you and does not disclose your data for any other purposes. The national data opt-out does not apply to our usage of your data and we are compliant with the policy.