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OUR PRIVACY POLICY

The provision of quality health care requires a doctor-patient relationship of trust and confidentiality. Consistent with our commitment to quality care, we have developed this policy to protect patient confidentiality in compliance with privacy legislation.

In the interests of the highest quality and continuity of patients' health care, it is necessary for us to collect personal information from patients. This may also involve the giving/obtaining of information to/from other health care providers who comprise a patient's medical team e.g. pathology, radiology, hospital records, etc.

As health information is "sensitive information" for the purposes of privacy legislation, we will make all attempts to gain our patient's consent to collect health information that is necessary to make an accurate medical diagnosis, prescribe appropriate treatment, and to be pro-active in patient health care.

Similarly, patients have the right to request access to their personal health information held by this practice. Whilst not required to give reasons for their request, a patient may be asked to clarify the scope of the request. Again, in the interest of the highest quality of care and in accordance with privacy legislation, we do reserve our right to a period of 30 days before we are required to provide requested information to patients. There are some circumstances in which access may be restricted and, in these cases, reasons for denying access will be explained. A charge may be payable where the practice incurs costs in providing access.

This practice acknowledges the right of children to privacy of their health information. Based on the professional judgment of the doctor and consistent with the law, it may, at times, be necessary to restrict access to personal health information by parents or guardians.

It is important to us that your expectations about the way in which we handle your information are the same as ours. Please do not hesitate to discuss any concerns, questions or complaints about any issues related to the privacy of your personal information with our practice manager or Dr Clark.