

Merewether Family Practice Privacy Policy

As a patient of our Practice we require you to provide us with your personal details and medical history so that we may properly assess, diagnose, manage and be proactive in your healthcare needs. The privacy of your health information is important to us. Our medical record is a confidential document and as such it is the policy of this practice to maintain the security of your personal information at all times.

From time to time your personal health information may be collected, used and disclosed for the following:

- Administration purposed in running our medical practice.
- Billing purposes, including compliance with Medicare and Health Insurance Commission requirements.
- Disclosure to other doctors in the practice for the purpose of continuity of care and professional development.
- For communication with others involved in your care, such as specialists and allied health providers, through referral to these services and in receiving reports or results returned to us following referral.
- As part of quality improvements activities and/or participation in research, either within the practice or externally organized. Wherever possible all information used will be de-identified. Where it is not possible to de-identify information, your additional consent will be sought, and you will be given the opportunity to “opt-out” of any of any involvement before your information is used.
- To comply with any legislative or regulatory requirements (such as notifiable diseases).
- For notifying you about health services that may be due, or which require follow-up with your GP (including inclusion on national and state registers, such as the Childhood Immunisation Register and Cervical Screening Register).
- For legal disclosure as required by a court of law.

If you have any concerns about the use of your personal health information, please speak with your GP or our Practice Manager.

Disclosure to Family Members

By law, if you are competent and an age where you are capable of making decisions about your own healthcare, we are not permitted to disclose your medical information (including test results) to anyone else in your family without your permission. If you are 16 years or older, please indicate your consent to share and disclose your personal health information with family members: