

AN INTRODUCTION TO GDPR

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) takes effect from 25th May 2018 and replaces the Data Protection Act (DPA).

To ensure you, as the patient, are fully aware of how these changes affect you and your rights we have updated our privacy policy.

Our privacy policy is available to view on our website or on request at the clinic. The key point of note here is that the privacy policy will explain what data we hold about you and how we process and use it.

An essential requirement of osteopathic treatment is obtaining informed patient consent and communicating effectively with all our patients.

Under GDPR it is now necessary to get the explicit consent of the patient or their legal guardian for making, processing and storing their records and we must retain a note of the consent on your file. A new GDPR consent form will now be provided for both adults and minors to sign before the appointed treatment session.

Final points to note:

Legally, we are obligated to keep your health records for 8 years, after which time you may ask for your records to be destroyed.

For the purposes of marketing and practice promotion, we rely on what is called legitimate interest. This means that direct contact and marketing to our patients must hold a legitimate interest.

For more information about GDPR changes, please visit the information Commissioners Office (ICO) <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/health/>.