

## **Privacy Policy**

## **Privacy Statement**

Sunshine Private Day Surgery is committed to providing quality health care to patients. Sunshine Private Day Surgery staff regards patient health information as confidential and only collect health information with patient's consent. A patient's personal health information is handled in accordance with Sunshine Private Day Surgery Privacy Policy and consistent with the health privacy principles and standards established by the Health Records Act 2001. The Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights in Victoria booklet is displayed and copies are available to all patients on admission.

## Collection, Use and Disclosure of Your Information

Information about a patient's medical and family history is needed to provide accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment. This information is generally collected from the patient, their family or guardian; however, sometimes we may receive patient information from other sources. Information received from other sources will, wherever possible, be reported to the patient.

Comprehensive medical care requires full knowledge of patient health information by all health professionals involved in patient treatment. To ensure quality and continuity of patient care, health information may be shared with other health professionals as is considered appropriate. It is the usual practice of specialists at Sunshine Private Day Surgery to communicate with your referring doctor in writing after your consultation and, or, treatment.

Some information about patients is also provided to Medicare and private health funds if relevant, for billing and medical rebate purposes. There are some circumstances where Sunshine Private Day Surgery is legally bound to disclose personal information, for example the mandatory reporting of some infectious diseases. It is also necessary for Sunshine Private Day Surgery to retain and store patients' information for as is long as required by law.

## **Access and Security to Your Information**

A patient has the right to access their information. They may ask to view the information or request a copy of their medical record. While not required to give reasons for their request, a patient may be asked to clarify the scope of the request. There are some circumstances in which access may be denied, and in such an event, the patient will be advised of the reason.

Upon request, a patient's health information will be made available to another health practitioner. A charge will be payable for costs incurred in providing access. Should a patient find the information held by Sunshine Private Day Surgery to be incomplete or inaccurate, a patient may have the information amended accordingly.

We will take reasonable steps to ensure that all information we collect, use or disclose is accurate, complete and stored in a secure environment accessed only by authorized persons.

The rights of children to privacy of their health information, based on the professional judgment of the Chief Executive Officer at Sunshine Private Day Surgery and consistent with the law, might at times restrict access to this information by parents or guardians.