

Stockport Medical Group

Data protection policy

Summary

Policy prepared by:	Dr Alex Eaton
Approved at the Practice meeting:	
Held on:	24/05/2018
Persons present voting:	Dr R Gill, Dr N Lalloo, Dr L Housley, Dr C Bonnici, Dr L Price and Dr A Afshar
Persons present not voting:	Dr A Eaton
Effective from:	25 th May 2018
Next review date:	May 2019

Introduction

Stockport Medical Group needs to have a Practice Privacy Policy to demonstrate compliance with DPA 2018 and GDPR. This policy is that document. It sets out the general arrangements by which Stockport Medical Group will be compliant under the various Articles of GDPR and the UK DPA 2018.

Stockport Medical Group is the term used in this document to describe an NHS general practice operating under contract with NHS England and Stockport CCG.

The contract is a PMS contract.

The Data Controllers acting in partnership on the 1st April 2004 date of the adoption of this policy were Dr R Gill, Dr L Housley, Dr N Lalloo and Dr L Price.

As an NHS general practice providing services under contract to NHS England and Stockport CCG we process personal and special category data relating to our staff and those we treat, registered patients and others, internally and with other organisations external to the practice. We also hold data on other types of customers, suppliers, business contacts and other people we have relationships with or may need to contact.

We are also required by certain laws to disclose certain types of data to other organisations on a regular basis such as NHS Digital, or Public Health England, PCSE, NHS England and Stockport CCG.

We are also required by certain laws to disclose certain types of data to other organisations on an event by event basis, such as CQC or the General Medical Council

We also participate in research, when we feel it is in the interest of medical advancement. No patient identifiable details leave the practice.

These processing activities are described in detail in our Practice Privacy Notice www.stockportmedicalgroup.nhs.uk

Why this policy exists

Stockport Medical Group understands that with the advent of modern technologies, and in particular “social media type communications” the emphasis of data processing needs to be refocused to a default of protection and move forward only when disclosure is of benefit to the data subject.

Stockport Medical Group is open about how it stores and processes personal data and protects itself from the risks of a data breach

General

This policy applies no matter how the data is stored; electronically as text, documents, images or in tables, on paper or on other materials.

To comply with the law, personal data must only be collected and used fairly, stored safely and not disclosed unlawfully.

Personal data must

- Be processed fairly and lawfully
- Be obtained only for specific, lawful purposes
- Be adequate, relevant and not excessive
- Be accurate and kept up to date
- Not be held for any longer than necessary
- Processed in accordance with the rights of data subjects
- Be protected in appropriate ways

Policy scope

This policy applies to all our staff, clinical and non-clinical, and to everyone who works for or with Stockport Medical Group. It applies to all the personal data that we process.

Responsibilities

Everyone who works for or with Stockport Medical Group has shared responsibility for ensuring data is collected, stored and handled appropriately. Each person that handles personal data in this organisation must ensure that it is handled and processed in line with this policy and data protection principles.

Some people have key responsibilities;

The contract holders are ultimately responsible for ensuring that Stockport Medical Group meets its legal obligations.

The Data Protection Officer Dr A Eaton is responsible for: Keeping the contract holders, partners, doctors and all staff informed about data protection responsibilities, risks and issues, where necessary pre-emptively. Providing advice to the data controllers when requested. Advising on the need for and generation of DPIAs. Reviewing all data processing procedures, practices and policies as well as this policy on an annual basis. Arranging appropriate and relevant in-house training is in place for people covered by this policy. Keeping himself/herself up to date to an appropriate standard in all matters relevant to his role. Remaining independent and impartial and ensuring that any conflicts are reported to the partners. Handling data protection questions from staff and anyone else covered by this policy. Acting as the point of contact for data subjects. Dealing with requests from data subjects relating to their rights under CLDoC and GDPR including ensuring there is a compliant SAR and TSAR process. Checking and approving any contracts or agreements with third parties that may handle the company's sensitive data. Acting as the interface to the ICO. Ensuring that the practice completes the IG Toolkit each year.

The Practice Director Wendy Povey is responsible for the implementation of this policy.

The Data Controller(s) will ensure that the DPO has an environment in which the DPO can operate independently and without limitation. They will also involve the DPO in all relevant issues, provide support and resources for the DPO to carry out the tasks noted in this policy, including training and knowledge updating. They will not issue the DPO with any instructions or place any constraints relating to their DPO role. They will allow data subjects to access the DPO. They will not allow the DPO to be conflicted by other tasks, jobs or responsibilities that they may have.

General staff guidelines

The practice will provide training to all employees to help them understand their responsibilities when handling data. Employees should keep all data secure, by taking sensible precautions and following the practices procedures and policies. NHS smartcards, Passwords and logins must be used whenever possible and they should never be shared or borrowed. Whenever a screen is left programs that handle patient data should be closed. Personal data should not be disclosed to unauthorised people, either within the company or externally. Employees should request help from the practice manager, Caldicott guardian or the Data Protection Officer if they are unsure about any aspect of data protection. All employees will have a privacy and data protection clause added to their contracts.