NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH MEDICAL CENTRE

Hind Crescent, Northumberland Heath, Erith, Kent. DA8 3DB

DATA PROTECTION POLICY

Created by	S Flanagan	August 2012
Agreed by	Dr M McIntyre	September 2012
Reviewed by	B Russell	May 2020
Next Review Date		May 2021

INTRODUCTION

The Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) requires a clear direction on policy for security of information within the practice. The policy will provide direction on security against unauthorised access, unlawful processing, and loss or destruction of personal information. The following is a Statement of Policy which will apply.

THE POLICY

- The practice is committed to security of patient and staff records.
- The practice will make available a brochure on Access to Medical Records and Data Protection for the information of patients.
- The practice will take steps to ensure that individual patient information is not deliberately or accidentally released or (by default) made available or accessible to a third party without the patient's consent, unless otherwise legally compliant. This will include training on Confidentiality issues, DPA principles, working security procedures, and the application of Best practice in the workplace.
- The practice will undertake prudence in the use of, and testing of, arrangements for the backup and recovery of data in the event of an adverse event.
- The practice will maintain a system of "Significant Event Reporting" through a no-blame culture to capture and address incidents which threaten compliance.
- DPA issues will form part of the practice general procedures for the management of risk.
- Specific instructions will be documented within confidentiality and security instructions and will be promoted to all staff.

Signed:

Caldicott Guardian
Date: May 2020

Practice Manager Date: May 2020

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