

PRIVACY POLICY

Mr. Richard Large and his staff are firmly committed to maintaining your privacy in accordance with the National Privacy Principles for the Fair Handling of Personal Information in the Commonwealth Privacy Act (1988), as well as the Victorian Health Records Act (2002).

Our Privacy Policy applies to all services provided and binds all of our staff. Upon commencement of working at Mr Large’s consulting rooms all health service providers and administrative staff are informed of their responsibilities pertaining to patient information collection and confidentiality, and are required to sign a confidentiality agreement.

Our practice collects information from you, or other health service providers for the primary purpose of providing quality healthcare. Information collected by our practice includes personal health information, which is defined as information concerning your health, medical history, or past and present medical care and treatment. This also includes the details of any health care providers involved in your care and copies of any referral letters and/or medical reports and test results. Such information allows Mr Large to properly assess, diagnose, treat and be proactive in your health care needs.

Information collected will also include personal details such as your name, address, telephone number, Medicare number and Private Health Insurance details. Such information is required so that we can contact you in regard to your appointments and care, as well as for administrative and billing purposes that comply with Medicare and Health Insurance Commission requirements.

We also use the information you provide in the following ways.

* Disclosure to others involved in your health care, including treating doctors, allied health providers and third parties (e.g. WorkCover, TAC, Solicitors, Medicare and Health Funds) outside this medical practice. This may occur through referral to other Doctors, Physiotherapists, or for medical tests and in the reports or results returned to us following the referrals. This may include disclosure of non-medical information to a debt collection agency if absolutely necessary.
* Disclosure to other Doctors in the practice, and by Registrars attached to the practice for the purpose of patient care and teaching.
* In an emergency where your life is at risk and you cannot consent.
* Disclosure for research and quality assurance activities to improve individual and community healthcare and practice management. You will be informed when such activities are being conducted and given the opportunity to "opt out" of any involvement. De-identified pictures of X-rays may be used at times for presentations and/or teaching.

Patients are not obliged to provide any information requested by the practice, but failure to do so might compromise the quality of the healthcare and treatment provided. If this information is unable to be collected a service may therefore not be able to be given.

Patients have a right to access the information collected about themselves, except in some circumstances where access might legitimately be withheld.

X-rays will be destroyed after 12 months if not collected.