

Restore Function Physiotherapy Privacy Policy

Restore Function Physiotherapy respects your privacy and are committed to complying with the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) in the Privacy Act 1988. Please note that any reference made to “we”, “our” or “us” refers to each member of Restore Function Physiotherapy. Your personal information will not be shared or disclosed to any party other than what is outlined in this Policy, nor will it be used for any other purpose than what it was originally intended.

What Kind of information do we collect?

Restore Function Physiotherapy collects a range of personal information about their patient, clients and prospective clientele that may include the following:

- Name, date of birth, mailing and street address, email address, contact numbers
- Information about your family or relatives or key contact people
- Health fund details
- Any government identifiers such as Medicare number, DVA number. However, we do not use these for the purposes of identifying you in our practice
- Other health and information about you such as a record of your symptoms, your relevant medical history, the diagnosis made and the treatment decisions made. Other information could include:
 - Specialist report
 - Test results
 - Your prescriptions
 - Your healthcare identifier
 - Other information for the purpose of providing care to you
- Occupation and employer
- Lifestyle and hobbies

How do we collect and hold your personal information?

We will generally collect personal information about you through the following methods:

- Directly from you when you give us your details (e.g. by completing the New Patient Form, face-to-face, over the phone or an online form, by entering a competition or leaving your information on a message system)
- From a person responsible for you
- Enquiry or complaint
- Incoming call list; and
- Third party when we are permitted by law to do that e.g.
- Third party government agencies (like the Department of Veteran Affairs and Medicare)
- Private health insurers
- Solicitors, lawyers and worker's compensation companies; and
- Medical professionals (such as general practitioners, allied health professionals, specialists, etc.).

Why do we collect and use this information?

We collect personal information that is necessary to provide you with the best possible health care to communicate with you and others involved in your care in relation to those services and to maintain a high level of quality customer service.

Examples include:

- Administrative purpose in running our clinic
- Billing purposes
- Accreditation and quality assurance activities to improve individual and community health care and practice management
- Direct marketing purposes, mail and email reminders
- For the purposes of research and statistical analysis (only de-identified information is used unless otherwise specified)
- To comply with any legislative or regulatory requirements
- Sending communication to you about our products and services

- Advise you if a clinic will be closing down, merging or relocating
- Contact you in the event we have received a special order
- Update your records and keep your contact details current

When and why might we share information about you with others?

Restore Function Physiotherapy may use personal information for the following purposes;

- To comply with our legal obligations (e.g. mandatory reporting under legislation, responding to a court order or subpoena)
- To consult with other health professionals involved in your healthcare
- For use by a multidisciplinary treating team
- To get test results from diagnostic and pathology services
- To claim on insurance
- To communicate with your health fund, with government and other regulatory bodies such as Medicare
- To help us manage our accounts and administrative services (e.g. billing or debt recovery, arrangements with health funds, pursuing unpaid accounts etc.)
- Provide patient and clients with products and services, advise of upcoming promotions, specials and sales
- Respond to enquiries
- To improve our products and services
- Develop and improve our website
- Direct marketing purposes, mail and email reminders
- Remind patients of upcoming appointments in the form of a phone call, SMS or email
- Inform a patient or client they have won a competition
- To transfer your records on the sale of a clinic at which you have been treated
- Respond to complaints and compliments you have made

- To lessen or prevent a serious threat to a patient's life, health or safety or a serious threat to a public health or safety
- To help in locate a missing person
- To establish, exercise or defend an equitable claim through the My Health Record
- To prepare the defense of anticipated or existing legal proceedings
- To discharge notification obligations to liability insurers

We also outsource some of our services. This may involve us sharing your personal information with third parties. For example, we outsource the conduct of our patient reminders to a third-party provider.

We do not sell, trade, or rent personal information to others. We may share generic aggregated demographic information, or de-identified health records, not linked to any personal information, with our business partners, trusted affiliates and advertisers for the purposes outlined above, or to use for research purposes.

Keeping your information safe

We take appropriate security measures to keep your personal information protected, managed confidentially and securely, and destroyed appropriately when no longer required. We will monitor and implement appropriate technical advances or management processes to safeguard personal information.

A confidentiality agreement is entered into by all employees, contractors and agents at the time of their employment or engagement with us protecting the privacy of individuals. Where we outsource our services, we take reasonable steps in these circumstances to ensure that third parties have obligations under their contracts with Restore Function Physiotherapy to comply with all laws relating to the privacy (including security) and confidentiality of your personal information.

We view unauthorised disclosure of your personal information as a serious breach of misconduct by our employees, contractors and agents. If the disclosure of personal information is breached disciplinary or legal action will be taken.

Patients and clients can request copies of their personal information, clinical notes, images and reports sent to them or a third party by contacting admin to obtain a Release of Personal Information Consent Form. Your personal information will not be released unless a consent form has been signed, received and processed. We will

only disclose personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act. This means that personal information may be disclosed:

- For the purposes and uses for which we have advised that we are collecting it, and for related purposes that you would reasonably expect
- Where we have the consent by you to do so
- As required by law, or
- Under other circumstances where permitted under the Act.

We do not propose to disclose your personal information to recipients located overseas. If we want to transfer your personal information overseas, we will first seek your consent, unless we are required by law to do the transfer.

Contact Details

Cookies

A cookie is a string of information that a website stores on a visitor's computer, and that the visitor's browser provides to the website each time the visitor returns. Restore Function Physiotherapy uses cookies to help us identify and track visitors, their usage of our website, and their website access preferences. Visitors who do not wish to have cookies placed on their computers should set their browsers to refuse cookies before using the our website, with the drawback that certain features may not function properly without the aid of cookies.

Privacy Policy Changes

Although most changes are likely to be minor, Restore Function Physiotherapy may change its Privacy Policy from time to time, due to legal obligations or at our sole discretion. We encourage visitors to frequently check this page for any changes to its Privacy Policy. Your continued use of this site after any change in this Privacy Policy will constitute your acceptance of such change.

If you have any questions or comments about any privacy-related issue, please contact admin@restorefunction.com.au

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