
GDPR POLICY

Issue: 1 Revision: 3
Date Implemented: April 2022

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Change/Review Notes:

Date of Issue/Review	Issue:	Revision No:	Details of Revision
March 2020	1	0	First Issue
September 2020	1	1	Template rebrand and reg no
March 2021	1	2	Change of Management Structure
April 2022	1	3	Reviewed – changed email address following departure of Dan Raddings
April 2023	1	3	Reviewed – no changes

GDPR POLICY

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ML Doctors will only process the data relevant to its use within the context of a Medico Legal Reporting Organisation and no other.

ML Doctors collects data via varying means such as from instructions from Instructing Parties, direct from our customers in the form of consent forms and website enquiries etc. We store and use this data to instruct medical experts and provide Medico Legal reports for clients as appropriate. We use secure cloud-based systems for managing appointments, records and reports and hold GDPR compliant contracts with the IT providers of those platform as they are data processors.

A data flow mapping exercise has taken place for all types of personal data ML Doctors process or control. In addition to this we have robust Information Security Policies in accordance with our ISO27001: 2013 accreditation to ensure that data we hold is secure.

MLD

1. PURPOSE

This policy establishes an effective, accountable and transparent framework for ensuring compliance with the requirements of the GDPR.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all ML Doctors Ltd employees and all third parties responsible for the processing of personal data on behalf of ML Doctors Ltd.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

ML Doctors Ltd is committed to conducting its business in accordance with all applicable data protection laws and regulations and in line with the highest standards of ethical conduct.

This policy sets forth the expected behaviours of ML Doctors Ltd employees and third parties in relation to the collection, use, retention, transfer, disclosure and destruction of any personal data belonging to a ML Doctors Ltd contact (i.e. the data subject).

Personal data is any information (including opinions and intentions) which relates to an identified or identifiable natural person. Personal data is subject to certain legal safeguards and other regulations, which impose restrictions on how organisations may process personal data. An organisation that handles personal data and makes decisions about its use is known as a Data Controller. ML Doctors Ltd, as a Data Controller, is responsible for ensuring compliance with the data protection requirements outlined in this policy. Non-compliance may expose ML Doctors Ltd to complaints, regulatory action, fines and/or reputational damage.

ML Doctors Ltd's Senior Management Team is fully committed to ensuring continued and effective implementation of this policy and expects all ML Doctors Ltd employees and third parties to share in this commitment. Any breach of this policy will be taken seriously and may result in disciplinary action or business sanction.

3.1. Governance

3.1.1. Data Protection Representative

To demonstrate our commitment to data protection, and to enhance the effectiveness of our compliance efforts, ML Doctors Ltd has appointed a Data Protection Representative (IT Director). The Data Protection Representative operates with independence and is supported by suitability skilled individuals granted all necessary authority. The Data Protection Representative reports to the ML Doctors MD. The Data Protection Representative's duties include:

- Informing and advising ML Doctors Ltd and its employees who carry out processing pursuant to data protection regulations, national law or European Union based data protection provisions.
- Ensuring the alignment of this policy with data protection regulations, national law or European Union based data protection provisions.
- Providing guidance with regards to carrying out Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs).
- Acting as a point of contact for and cooperating with Data Protection Authorities (DPAs).
- Determining the need for notifications to one or more DPAs as a result of ML Doctor's current or intended personal data processing activities.
- Making and keeping current notifications to one or more DPAs as a result of ML Doctor's current or intended personal data processing activities.
- The establishment and operation of a system providing prompt and appropriate responses to data subject requests.

- Informing Senior Managers, officers, and Directors of ML Doctors Ltd of any potential corporate, civil and criminal penalties which may be levied against ML Doctors Ltd and/or its employees for violation of applicable data protection laws.

Ensuring establishment of procedures and standard contractual provisions for obtaining compliance with this Policy by any third party who:

- provides personal data to a ML Doctors Ltd
- receives personal data from a ML Doctors Ltd
- has access to personal data collected or processed by a ML Doctors Ltd

3.1.2.Data Protection by Design

To ensure that all data protection requirements are identified and addressed when designing new systems or processes and/or when reviewing or expanding existing systems or processes, each of them must go through an approval process before continuing. ML Doctors Ltd must ensure that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is conducted, in cooperation with the Data Protection Representative, for all new and/or revised systems or processes for which it has responsibility. The subsequent findings of the DPIA must then be submitted to the MD for review and approval. Where applicable, the Data Protection Representative, as part of its IT system and application design review process will assess the impact of any new technology uses on the security of personal data.

3.1.3.Compliance Monitoring

To confirm that an adequate level of compliance that is being achieved by all ML Doctors Ltd services/entities in relation to this policy, the Data Protection Representative will carry out an annual data protection compliance audit for all such services/entities. Each audit will, as a minimum, assess:

- Compliance with policy in relation to the protection of personal data, including:
 - The assignment of responsibilities.
 - ✓ Raising awareness.
 - ✓ Training of employees.
 - The effectiveness of data protection related operational practices, including:
 - ✓ Data subject rights.
 - ✓ Personal data transfers.
 - ✓ Personal data incident management.
 - ✓ Personal data complaints handling.
 - ✓ The level of understanding of data protection policies and privacy notices.
 - ✓ The currency of data protection policies and privacy notices.
 - ✓ The accuracy of personal data being stored.
 - ✓ The conformity of data processor activities.
 - ✓ The adequacy of procedures for redressing poor compliance and personal data breaches. The Data Protection Representative, in cooperation with key business stakeholders from ML Doctors Ltd, will devise a plan with a schedule for correcting any identified deficiencies within a defined and reasonable time frame. Any major deficiencies and good practice identified will be reported to, monitored and shared by the ML Doctors Ltd Senior team.

3.2. Data Protection Principles

ML Doctors Ltd has adopted the following principles to govern its collection, use, retention, transfer, disclosure and destruction of personal data:

Principle 1: Lawfulness, Fairness and Transparency. Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject. This means, ML Doctors Ltd must tell the data subject what processing will occur (transparency), the processing must match the description given to the data subject (fairness), and it must be for one of the purposes specified in the applicable data protection regulation (lawfulness).

Principle 2: Purpose Limitation. Personal data shall be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes. This means ML Doctors Ltd must specify exactly what the personal data collected will be used for and limit the processing of that personal data to only what is necessary to meet the specified purpose.

Principle 3: Data Minimisation. Personal data shall be adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed. This means ML Doctors Ltd must not store any personal data beyond what is strictly required.

Principle 4: Accuracy. Personal data shall be accurate and, kept up to date. This means ML Doctors Ltd must have in place processes for identifying and addressing out-of-date, incorrect and redundant personal data.

Principle 5: Storage Limitation. Personal data shall be kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data is processed. This means ML Doctors Ltd must, wherever possible, store personal data in a way that limits or prevents identification of the data subject.

Principle 6: Integrity & Confidentiality. Personal data shall be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing, and against accidental loss, destruction or damage. ML Doctors Ltd must use appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of personal data is maintained at all times.

Principle 7: Accountability. The Data Protection Representative shall be responsible for and be able to demonstrate compliance. This means ML Doctors Ltd must demonstrate that the six data protection principles (outlined above) are met for all personal data for which it is responsible.

3.3. Data collection

3.3.1. Data Sources

Personal data should be collected only from the data subject unless one of the following apply:

- The nature of the business purpose necessitates collection of the personal data from other persons or bodies.
- The collection must be carried out under emergency circumstances in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject or to prevent serious loss or injury to another person.

If personal data is collected from someone other than the data subject, the data subject must be informed of the collection unless one of the following apply:

- The data subject has received the required information by other means.
- The information must remain confidential due to a professional secrecy obligation
- A national law expressly provides for the collection, processing or transfer of the personal data.

Where it has been determined that notification to a data subject is required, notification should occur promptly, but in no case later than:

- One calendar month from the first collection or recording of the personal data
- At the time of first communication if used for communication with the data subject
- At the time of disclosure if disclosed to another recipient.

3.3.2.Data subject consent

ML Doctors Ltd will obtain personal data only by lawful and fair means and, where appropriate with the knowledge and consent of the individual concerned. Where a need exists to request and receive the consent of an individual prior to the collection, use or disclosure of their personal data, ML Doctors Ltd is committed to seeking such consent. The Data Protection Representative, in cooperation with other relevant business representatives, shall establish a system for obtaining and documenting data subject consent for the collection, processing, and/or transfer of their personal data.

3.3.3.Data subject Notification

ML Doctors Ltd will, when required by applicable law, contract, or where it considers that it is reasonably appropriate to do so, provide data subjects with information as to the purpose of the processing of their personal data. When the data subject is asked to give consent to the processing of personal data and when any personal data is collected from the data subject, all appropriate disclosures will be made, in a manner that draws attention to them, unless one of the following apply:

- The data subject already has the information.
- A legal exemption applies to the requirements for disclosure and/or consent. The disclosures may be given orally, electronically or in writing. If given orally, the person making the disclosures should use a suitable script or form approved in advance by the Data Protection Representative. The associated receipt or form should be retained, along with a record of the facts, date, content, and method of disclosure.

3.3.4.External Privacy Notices

Each external website provided by ML Doctors Ltd will include an online 'Privacy Notice' and an online 'Cookie Notice' fulfilling the requirements of applicable law.

3.4. Data Use

3.4.1.Data processing

ML Doctors Ltd uses the personal data of its contacts for the following broad purposes:

- The general running and business administration of ML Doctors Ltd services/entities.
- To provide services to ML Doctors' stakeholders.
- The ongoing administration and management of customer services.

The use of a contact's information should always be considered from their perspective and whether the use will be within their expectations or if they are likely to object. For example, it would clearly be within a contact's expectations that their details will be used by ML Doctors Ltd to respond to a contact request for information about the products and services on offer. However, it will not be within their reasonable expectations that ML Doctors Ltd would then provide their details to third parties for marketing purposes.

ML Doctors Ltd will process personal data in accordance with all applicable laws and applicable contractual obligations. More specifically, ML Doctors Ltd will not process personal data unless at least one of the following requirements are met:

- The data subject has given consent to the processing of their personal data for one or more specific purposes.
- Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is party or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract.
- Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the Data Controller is subject.
- Processing is necessary in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person.
- Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the Data Controller.

- Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the Data Controller or by a third party (except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject, in particular where the data subject is a child).

There are some circumstances in which personal data may be further processed for purposes that go beyond the original purpose for which the personal data was collected. When making a determination as to the compatibility of the new reason for processing, guidance and approval must be obtained from the Data Protection Representative before any such processing may commence.

- In any circumstance where consent has not been gained for the specific processing in question, ML Doctors Ltd will address the following additional conditions to determine the fairness and transparency of any processing beyond the original purpose for which the personal data was collected: Any link between the purpose for which the personal data was collected and the reasons for intended further processing.
- The context in which the personal data has been collected, in particular regarding the relationship between data subject and the Data Controller.
- The nature of the personal data, in particular whether special categories of data are being processed, or whether personal data related to criminal convictions and offences are being processed.
- The possible consequences of the intended further processing for the data subject.
- The existence of appropriate safeguards pertaining to further processing, which may include encryption, anonymisation or pseudonymisation.

3.4.2.Special Categories of Data

ML Doctors Ltd will only process special categories of data (also known as sensitive data) where the data subject expressly consents to such processing or where one of the following conditions apply:

- The processing relates to personal data which has already been made public by the data subject.
- The processing is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.
- The processing is specifically authorised or required by law.
- The processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person where the data subject is physically or legally incapable of giving consent.
- Further conditions, including limitations, based upon national law related to the processing of genetic data, biometric data or data concerning health.

In any situation where special categories of data are to be processed, prior approval must be obtained from the Data Protection Representative and the basis for the processing clearly recorded with the personal data in question. Where special categories of data are being processed, ML Doctors Ltd will adopt additional protection measures.

3.4.3.Children's Data

Children under the age of 14 are unable to consent to the processing of personal data for information society services (any service normally provided for payment, by electronic means and at the individual request of a recipient of services). Consent must be sought from the person who holds parental responsibility over the child. However, it should be noted that where processing is lawful under other grounds, consent need not be obtained from the child or the holder of parental responsibility.

3.4.4.Data Quality

ML Doctors Ltd will adopt all necessary measures to ensure that the personal data it collects, and processes is complete and accurate in the first instance and is updated to reflect the current situation of the data subject. The measures adopted by ML Doctors Ltd to ensure data quality include:

- Correcting personal data known to be incorrect, inaccurate, incomplete, ambiguous, misleading or outdated, even if the data subject does not request rectification.
- Keeping personal data only for the period necessary to satisfy the permitted uses or applicable statutory retention period.

- The removal of personal data if in violation of any of the data protection principles or if the personal data is no longer required.
- Restriction, rather than deletion of personal data, insofar as:
 - ✓ a law prohibits erasure.
 - ✓ erasure would impair legitimate interests of the data subject.
 - ✓ the data subject disputes that their personal data is correct and it cannot be clearly ascertained whether their information is correct or incorrect.

3.4.5. Profiling & Automated Decision Making

ML Doctors Ltd will only engage in profiling and automated decision-making where it is necessary to enter into, or to perform, a contract with the data subject or where it is authorised by law. Where ML Doctors Ltd utilises profiling and automated decision-making, this will be disclosed to the relevant data subjects. In such cases the data subject will be given the opportunity to:

- Express their point of view.
- Obtain an explanation for the automated decision.
- Review the logic used by the automated system.
- Supplement the automated system with additional data.
- Have a human carry out a review of the automated decision.
- Contest the automated decision.

Object to the automated decision-making being carried out. ML Doctors Ltd must also ensure that all profiling and automated decision-making relating to a data subject is based on accurate data.

3.4.6. Digital Marketing

As a general rule ML Doctors Ltd will not send promotional or direct marketing material to an ML Doctors Ltd Contact through digital channels such as mobile phones, email and the Internet, without first obtaining their consent. ML Doctors Ltd wishing to carry out a digital marketing campaign without obtaining prior Consent from the data subject must first have it approved by the MD. Where personal data processing is approved for digital marketing purposes, the data subject must be informed at the point of first contact that they have the right to object, at any stage, to having their data processed for such purposes. If the data subject puts forward an objection, digital marketing related processing of their personal data must cease immediately and their details should be kept on a suppression list with a record of their opt-out decision, rather than being completely deleted. It should be noted that where digital marketing is carried out in a 'business to business' context, there is no legal requirement to obtain an indication of Consent to carry out digital marketing to individuals provided that they are given the opportunity to opt-out.

3.5. Data Retention

To ensure fair processing, personal data will not be retained by ML Doctors Ltd for longer than necessary in relation to the purposes for which it was originally collected, or for which it was further processed. The length of time for which ML Doctors Ltd services/entities need to retain personal data is set out in ML Doctors Ltd Quality Manual. This takes into account the legal and contractual requirements, both minimum and maximum, that influence the retention periods set forth in the schedule. All personal data should be deleted or destroyed as soon as possible where it has been confirmed that there is no longer a need to retain it.

3.6. Data Protection

ML Doctors Ltd will adopt physical, technical, and organisational measures to ensure the security of personal data. This includes the prevention of loss or damage, unauthorised alteration, access or processing, and other risks to which it may be exposed by virtue of human action or the physical or natural environment. A summary of the personal data related security measures is provided below:

- Prevent unauthorised persons from gaining access to data processing systems in which personal data are processed.

- Prevent persons entitled to use a data processing system from accessing personal data beyond their needs and authorisations.
- Ensure that personal data in the course of electronic transmission during transport cannot be read, copied, modified or removed without authorisation.
- Ensure that access logs are in place to establish whether, and by whom, the personal data was entered into, modified on or removed from a data processing system.
- Ensure that in the case where processing is carried out by a Data Processor, the data can be processed only in accordance with the instructions of the Data Controller.
- Ensure that personal data is protected against undesired destruction or loss.
- Ensure that personal data collected for different purposes can and is processed separately.
- Ensure that personal data is not kept longer than necessary

3.7. Data Subject Requests

The Data Protection Representative will establish a system to enable and facilitate the exercise of data subject rights related to:

- Information access.
- Objection to processing.
- Objection to automated decision-making and profiling.
- Restriction of processing.
- Data portability.
- Data rectification.
- Data erasure. If an individual makes a request relating to any of the rights listed above

ML Doctors Ltd will consider each such request in accordance with all applicable data protection laws and regulations. No administration fee will be charged for considering and/or complying with such a request unless the request is deemed to be unnecessary or excessive in nature. data subjects are entitled to obtain, based upon a request made in writing/email to: services@mldoctors.com

It should be noted that situations may arise where providing the information requested by a data subject would disclose personal data about another individual. In such cases, information must be redacted or withheld as may be necessary or appropriate to protect that person's rights.

Law Enforcement Requests & Disclosures

In certain circumstances, it is permitted that personal data be shared without the knowledge or consent of a data subject. This is the case where the disclosure of the personal data is necessary for any of the following purposes:

- The prevention or detection of crime.
- The apprehension or prosecution of offenders.
- The assessment or collection of a tax or duty.
- By the order of a court or by any rule of law.

If ML Doctors Ltd processes personal data for one of these purposes, then it may apply an exception to the processing rules outlined in this policy but only to the extent that not doing so would be likely to prejudice the case in question. If ML Doctors Ltd receives a request from a court or any regulatory or law enforcement authority for information relating to an ML Doctors Ltd contact, you must immediately notify the Data Protection Rep[resentative who will provide comprehensive guidance and assistance.

3.8. Data Protection Training

All ML Doctors Ltd employees that have access to personal data will have their responsibilities under this policy outlined to them as part of their staff induction training. In addition, ML Doctors Ltd will provide regular Data Protection training and procedural guidance for their staff.

3.9. Data Transfers

ML Doctors Ltd services/entities may transfer personal data to internal or third-party recipients located in another country where that country is recognised as having an adequate level of legal protection for the rights and freedoms of the relevant data subjects. Where transfers need to be made to countries lacking an adequate level of legal protection (i.e. third countries), they must be made in compliance with an approved transfer mechanism. ML Doctors Ltd entities may only transfer personal data where one of the transfer scenarios list below applies:

- The data subject has given Consent to the proposed transfer.
- The transfer is necessary for the performance of a contract with the data subject
- The transfer is necessary for the implementation of pre-contractual measures taken in response to the data subject's request.
- The transfer is necessary for the conclusion or performance of a contract concluded with a third party in the interest of the data subject.
- The transfer is legally required on important public interest grounds.
- The transfer is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims.
- The transfer is necessary in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject

3.10. Complaints handling

Data subjects with a complaint about the processing of their personal data, should put forward the matter in writing to the Data Protection Representative. An investigation of the complaint will be carried out to the extent that is appropriate based on the merits of the specific case. The Data Protection Representative will inform the data subject of the progress and the outcome of the complaint within a reasonable period. If the issue cannot be resolved through consultation between the data subject and the Data Protection Representative, then the data subject may, at their option, seek redress through mediation, binding arbitration, litigation, or via complaint to the Data Protection Authority within the applicable jurisdiction.

3.11. Breach Reporting

Any individual who suspects that a personal data breach has occurred due to the theft or exposure of personal data must immediately notify the Data Protection Representative providing a description of what occurred. Notification of the incident can be made via e-mail or by contacting the Head Office: services@mldoctors.com. The Data Protection Representative will investigate all reported incidents to confirm whether or not a personal data breach has occurred. If a personal data breach is confirmed, the Data Protection Representative will follow the relevant authorised procedure based on the criticality and quantity of the personal data involved. For severe personal data breaches, ML Doctors Ltd Senior Team will initiate and chair an emergency response team to coordinate and manage the personal data breach response.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1. Implementation

The Management team of ML Doctors Ltd must ensure that all ML Doctors Ltd employees responsible for the processing of personal data are aware of and comply with the contents of this policy. In addition, ML Doctors Ltd will make sure all third parties engaged to process personal data on their behalf (i.e. their data processors) are aware of and comply with the contents of this policy. Assurance of such compliance must be obtained from all third parties, whether companies or individuals, prior to granting them access to personal data controlled by ML Doctors Ltd.

4.2. Support, Advice and Communication

For advice and support in relation to this policy, please contact the Head Office by email to services@mldoctors.com

5. REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed by the Data Protection Representative every three years, unless there are any changes to regulations or legislation that would enable a review earlier.

6. RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Staff must maintain all records relevant to administering this policy and procedure in electronic form in a recognised ML Doctors Ltd recordkeeping system.

All records relevant to administering this policy and procedure will be maintained for a period of 5 years.

7. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) is a regulation by which the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission intend to strengthen and unify data protection for all individuals within the European Union (EU). It also addresses the export of personal data outside the EU.

Data Controller: the entity that determines the purposes, conditions and means of the processing of personal data.

Data Processor: the entity that processes data on behalf of the Data Controller.

Data Protection Authority: national authorities tasked with the protection of data and privacy as well as monitoring and enforcement of the data protection regulations within the Union.

Data Protection Officer (DPO): an expert on data privacy who works independently to ensure that an entity is adhering to the policies and procedures set forth in the GDPR.

Data subject: a natural person whose personal data is processed by a controller or processor.

Personal data: any information related to a natural person or 'data subject', that can be used to directly or indirectly identify the person.

Privacy Impact Assessment: a tool used to identify and reduce the privacy risks of entities by analysing the personal data that are processed and the policies in place to protect the data.

Processing: any operation performed on personal data, whether or not by automated means, including collection, use, recording, etc.

Profiling: any automated processing of personal data intended to evaluate, analyse, or predict data subject behaviour.

Regulation: a binding legislative act that must be applied in its entirety across the Union.

Subject Access Right: also known as the Right to Access, it entitles the data subject to have access to and information about the personal data that a controller has concerning them.

8. RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

- [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC \(General Data Protection Regulation\)](#)
- Data Protection Act 2018



Belinda Bishop

Managing Director
ML Doctors Ltd

MLD