

Woodchurch Surgery: Privacy Notice – Use of Open Safely for Patient Care

Effective from: October 2025

Data Controller: Woodchurch Surgery

Data Protection Officers & Caldicott Guardians: Dr Jack Hickey and Helen Fox

Why are we telling you this?

NHS England has been directed by the government to establish and operate the OpenSAFELY COVID-19 Service and the OpenSAFELY Data Analytics Service. These services provide a secure environment that supports research, clinical audit, service evaluation and health surveillance for COVID-19 and other purposes.

Each GP practice remains the controller of its own GP patient data but is required to let approved users run queries on pseudonymised patient data. This means identifiers are removed and replaced with a pseudonym.

Only approved users are allowed to run these queries, and they will not be able to access information that directly or indirectly identifies individuals.

Patients who do not wish for their data to be used as part of this process can register <http://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/about-the-nhs/opt-out-of-sharing-your-health-records/> with their GP.

What is Open Safely?

<http://www.opensafely.org/>

Questions or concerns?

If you have any questions about how your data is used with Open Safely, contact:

Data Protection Officers:

Dr Jack Hickey and Helen Fox

Email: kmicb.woodchurchsurgery@nhs.net

Phone: 01233 860236

For more information about how we use your data, visit:

Link: <https://www.woodchurchsurgery.co.uk/gdpr>