

PRIVACY AND COOKIE POLICY

Introduction

This privacy and cookie policy sets out how The Society of Occupational Medicine uses and protects your personal data, and its use of cookies.

1. Important information and who we are

www.som.org.uk is a site operated by The Society of Occupational Medicine ("SOM"). We are registered in England and Wales under company number 11380861 and a charity registered under number 1184142. Our registered and trading office is at 2 St Andrews Place London NW1 4LD.

To contact us, please email admin@som.org.uk or telephone us on +44 (0)23 910 4531.

Privacy policy

This privacy policy gives you information about how SOM collects and uses your personal data through your use of this website, including any data you may provide when you register with us, sign up to our bulletin, submit an enquiry form or send emails to us.

This website is not intended for children, and we do not knowingly collect data relating to children.

Controller

Nick Pahl, CEO of the SOM is the controller and responsible for your personal data (collectively referred to as "we", "us" or "our" in this privacy policy).

If you have any questions about this privacy policy, including any requests to exercise your legal rights (paragraph 9), please contact us using the information set out in the contact details section (paragraph 10).

2. The types of personal data we collect about you

Personal data means any information about an individual from which that person can be identified.

We may collect, use, store and transfer different kinds of personal data about you which we have grouped together as follows:

- **Identity Data** includes first name, last name, any previous names, username or similar identifier, marital status, title, date of birth and gender.
- **Contact Data** includes billing address, delivery address, email address and telephone numbers.
- **Transaction Data** includes details about payments to and from you and other details of products and services you have purchased from us.
- **Technical Data** includes internet protocol (IP) address, your login data, browser type and version, time zone setting and location, browser plug-in types and versions, operating system and platform, device ID and other technology on the devices you use to access this website.
- **Profile Data** includes your username, purchases or orders made by you, your interests, preferences, feedback and survey responses.
- **Usage Data** includes information about how you interact with and use our website, products and services.
- **Marketing and Communications Data** includes your preferences in receiving marketing from us and our third parties and your communication preferences.

We also collect, use and share **aggregated data** such as statistical or demographic data which is not personal data as it does not directly (or indirectly) reveal your identity. For example, we may aggregate individuals' Usage Data to calculate the percentage of users accessing a specific website feature to analyse general trends in how users are interacting with our website to help improve the website and our service offering.

3. How is your personal data collected?

We use different methods to collect data from and about you including through:

- **Your interactions with us.** You may give us your personal data by filling in online forms or by corresponding with us by post, phone, email or otherwise. This includes personal data you provide when you:
 - apply for our membership or services.
 - create an account on our website.
 - subscribe to our service or publications.
 - request marketing to be sent to you.
 - enter a competition, promotion or survey; or
 - give us feedback or contact us.
- **Automated technologies or interactions.** As you interact with our website, we will automatically collect Technical Data about your equipment, browsing actions and patterns. We collect this personal data by using cookies, server logs and other similar technologies. We may also receive Technical Data about you if you visit other websites employing our cookies. Please see our cookie policy for further details.
- **Third parties or publicly available sources.** We will receive personal data about you from various third parties as set out below:
 - Technical Data is collected from the following parties:
 - analytics providers [such as Google based outside the UK].
 - Contact, Financial and Transaction Data is collected from providers of technical, payment and delivery services such as Sage pay based inside the UK.
 - Identity and Contact Data is collected from publicly available sources such as Companies House and the Electoral Register based inside the UK.

4. How we use your personal data

Legal basis

The law requires us to have a legal basis for collecting and using your personal data. We rely on one or more of the following legal bases:

- **Performance of a contract with you:** Where we need to perform the contract, we are about to enter or have entered with you.
- **Legitimate interests:** We may use your personal data where it is necessary to conduct our business and pursue our legitimate interests, for example to prevent fraud and enable us to give you the best and most secure customer experience. We make sure we consider and balance any potential impact on you and your rights (both positive and negative) before we process your personal data for our legitimate interests. We do not use your personal data for activities where our interests are overridden by the impact on you (unless we have your consent or are otherwise required or permitted to by law).

- **Legal obligation:** We may use your personal data where it is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation that we are subject to. We will identify the relevant legal obligation when we rely on this legal basis.
- **Consent:** We rely on consent only where we have obtained your active agreement to use your personal data for a specified purpose, for example if you subscribe to an email newsletter.

Purposes for which we will use your personal data

We have set out below, in a table format, a description of all the ways we plan to use the various categories of your personal data, and which of the legal bases we rely on to do so. We have also identified what our legitimate interests are where appropriate.

Purpose/Use	Type of data	Legal basis
To register you as a new member	(a) Identity (b) Contact	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to keep our records updated and manage our relationship with you) We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To process and deliver your order including: (a) Manage payments, fees and charges (b) Collect and recover money owed to us	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Transaction (d) Marketing Communications and	(a) Performance of a contract with you (b) Necessary for our legitimate interests (to recover debts due to us) We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To manage our relationship with you which will include: (a) Notifying you about changes to our terms or privacy policy (b) Dealing with your requests, complaints and queries	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Profile (d) Marketing Communications and	(a) Performance of a contract with you (b) Necessary to comply with a legal obligation (c) Necessary for our legitimate interests (to keep our records updated and manage our relationship with you) We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To enable you to partake in a prize draw, competition or complete a survey	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Profile (d) Usage (e) Marketing Communications and	(a) Performance of a contract with you (b) Necessary for our legitimate interests (to study how customers use our products/services, to develop them and grow our business) We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To administer and protect our business and this website (including troubleshooting, data analysis, testing, system maintenance, support, reporting and hosting of data)	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Technical	(a) Necessary for our legitimate interests (for running our business, provision of administration and IT services, network security, to prevent fraud and in the context of a business reorganisation or group restructuring exercise) (b) Necessary to comply with a legal obligation

		We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To deliver relevant website content and online advertisements to you and measure or understand the effectiveness of the advertising we serve to you	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Profile (d) Usage (e) Marketing and Communications (f) Technical	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to study how customers use our products/services, to develop them, to grow our business and to inform our marketing strategy) We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To use data analytics to improve our website, products/services, customer relationships and experiences and to measure the effectiveness of our communications and marketing	(a) Technical (b) Usage	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to define types of customers for our products and services, to keep our website updated and relevant, to develop our business and to inform our marketing strategy) We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To send you relevant marketing communications and make personalised suggestions and recommendations to you about goods or services that may be of interest to you based on your Profile Data	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Technical (d) Usage (e) Profile (f) Marketing and Communications	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to carry out direct marketing, develop our products/services and grow our business) We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.
To carry out market research through your voluntary participation in surveys	(a) Identity (b) Contact (c) Technical (d) Usage (e) Profile (f) Marketing and Communications	Necessary for our legitimate interests (to study how customers use our products/services and to help us improve and develop our products and services). We will retain this data in accordance with our data retention policy.

Direct marketing

During the registration process on our website when your personal data is collected, you will receive marketing communications from us if you have requested information from us or purchased goods or services from us and you have not opted out of receiving the marketing.

We may also analyse your Identity, Contact, Technical, Usage and Profile Data to form a view which product, services and offers may be of interest to you so that we can then send you relevant marketing communications.

Third-party marketing

We will get your express consent before we share your personal data with any third party for their own direct marketing purposes.

Opting out of marketing

You can ask to stop sending you marketing communications at any time. To withdraw consent, you can either click 'unsubscribe' at the bottom of certain emails you have received from us, or you can email us at admin@som.org.uk. As a member, you will still receive correspondence relating to your membership, appraisal (if relevant) and your membership renewal.

If you sign up to our OH Nurse Connect or OH GP Connect bulletin, you will receive OH Nurse Connect/OH GP Connect emails from us on a periodic basis. If you no longer wish to receive the bulletin, please click 'unsubscribe' at the bottom of the OH Nurse/GP Connect email or contact admin@som.org.uk

If you opt out of receiving marketing communications, you will still receive service-related communications that are essential for administrative or customer service purposes for example relating to order confirmations, appraisal reminders, updates to our Terms and Conditions, checking that your contact details are correct.

5. Disclosures of your personal data

We may share your personal data where necessary with the parties set out below for the purposes set out in the table [Purposes for which we will use your personal data](#) above.

- Oxford University Press (OUP) for the for provision of the Oxford Medicine Journal and with the Faculty of Occupational Medicine.
- Third parties to whom we may choose to sell, transfer or merge parts of our business or our assets. Alternatively, we may seek to acquire other businesses or merge with them. If a change happens to our business, then the new owners may use your personal data in the same way as set out in this privacy policy.

We require all third parties to respect the security of your personal data and to treat it in accordance with the law. We do not allow our third-party service providers to use your personal data for their own purposes and only permit them to process your personal data for specified purposes and in accordance with our instructions.

6. International transfers

We do not transfer your personal data outside the UK.

7. Data security

We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal data from being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed. In addition, we limit access to your personal data to those employees, agents, contractors and other third parties who have a business need to know. They will only process your personal data on our instructions, and they are subject to a duty of confidentiality.

We have put in place procedures to deal with any suspected personal data breach and will notify you and any applicable regulator of a breach where we are legally required to do so.

8. Data retention

How long will you use my personal data for?

We will only retain your personal data for as long as reasonably necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, regulatory, tax, accounting or reporting requirements. We may retain your personal data for a longer period in the event of a complaint or if we reasonably believe there is a prospect of litigation in respect to our relationship with you.

To determine the appropriate retention period for personal data, we consider the amount, nature and sensitivity of the personal data, the potential risk of harm from unauthorised use or disclosure of your

personal data, the purposes for which we process your personal data and whether we can achieve those purposes through other means, and the applicable legal, regulatory, tax, accounting or other requirements.

By law we must keep basic information about our customers (including Contact, Identity, Financial and Transaction Data) for six years after they cease being customers for tax purposes.

In some circumstances you can ask us to delete your data: see paragraph 9 below for further information.

In some circumstances we will anonymise your personal data (so that it can no longer be associated with you) for research or statistical purposes, in which case we may use this information indefinitely without further notice to you.

9. Your legal rights

You have several rights under data protection laws in relation to your personal data.

You have the right to:

- Request access to your personal data (commonly known as a "subject access request"). This enables you to receive a copy of the personal data we hold about you and to check that we are lawfully processing it.
- Request correction of the personal data that we hold about you. This enables you to have any incomplete or inaccurate data we hold about you corrected, though we may need to verify the accuracy of the new data you provide to us.
- Request erasure of your personal data in certain circumstances. This enables you to ask us to delete or remove personal data where there is no good reason for us continuing to process it. You also have the right to ask us to delete or remove your personal data where you have successfully exercised your right to object to processing (see below), where we may have processed your information unlawfully or where we are required to erase your personal data to comply with local law. Note, however, that we may not always be able to comply with your request of erasure for specific legal reasons which will be notified to you, if applicable, at the time of your request.
- Object to processing of your personal data where we are relying on a legitimate interest (or those of a third party) as the legal basis for that particular use of your data (including carrying out profiling based on our legitimate interests). In some cases, we may demonstrate that we have compelling legitimate grounds to process your information which override your right to object.
- You also have the absolute right to object any time to the processing of your personal data for direct marketing purposes (see [OPTING OUT OF MARKETING](#) in paragraph 4 for details of how to object to receiving direct marketing communications).
- Request the transfer of your personal data to you or to a third party. We will provide to you, or a third party you have chosen, your personal data in a structured, commonly used, machine-readable format. Note that this right only applies to automated information which you initially provided consent for us to use or where we used the information to perform a contract with you.
- Withdraw consent at any time where we are relying on consent to process your personal data (see the table in section 4 for details of when we rely on your consent as the legal basis for using your data). However, this will not affect the lawfulness of any processing carried out before you withdraw your consent. If you withdraw your consent, we may not be able to provide certain products or services to you. We will advise you if this is the case at the time you withdraw your consent.
- Request restriction of processing of your personal data. This enables you to ask us to suspend the processing of your personal data in one of the following scenarios:
 - If you want us to establish the data's accuracy.
 - Where our use of the data is unlawful, but you do not want us to erase it.

- Where you need us to hold the data even if we no longer require it as you need it to establish, exercise or defend legal claims; or
- You have objected to our use of your data, but we need to verify whether we have overriding legitimate grounds to use it.

If you wish to exercise any of the rights set out above, please contact us see Contact details (paragraph 10).

No fee usually required

You will not have to pay a fee to access your personal data (or to exercise any of the other rights). However, we may charge a reasonable fee if your request is clearly unfounded, repetitive or excessive. Alternatively, we could refuse to comply with your request in these circumstances.

What we may need from you

We may need to request specific information from you to help us confirm your identity and ensure your right to access your personal data (or to exercise any of your other rights). This is a security measure to ensure that personal data is not disclosed to any person who has no right to receive it. We may also contact you to ask you for further information in relation to your request to speed up our response.

Time limit to respond

We try to respond to all legitimate requests within one month. Occasionally it could take us longer than a month if your request is particularly complex or you have made several requests. In this case, we will notify you and keep you updated.

10. Contact details

If you have any questions about this privacy policy or about the use of your personal data or want to exercise your privacy rights, please contact us in the following ways:

- Email address: admin@som.org.uk
- Postal address: 2 St Andrews Place, London, NW1 4LB
- Telephone number: +44 (0)203 910 4531

11. Complaints

You have the right to make a complaint at any time to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the UK regulator for data protection issues (www.ico.org.uk). We would, however, appreciate the chance to deal with your concerns before you approach the ICO so please contact us in the first instance.

The Society of Occupational Medicine (SOM) is registered with the Information Commissioners Office, registration reference: Z5743416. The data controller is Nick Pahl, CEO: nick.pahl@som.org.uk

12. Changes to the privacy policy and your duty to inform us of changes

We keep our privacy policy under regular review. This version was last updated in November 2024.

It is important that the personal data we hold about you is accurate and current. Please keep us informed if your personal data changes during your relationship with us, for example a new address or email address.

13. Third-party links

This website may include links to third-party websites, plug-ins and applications. Clicking on those links or enabling those connections may allow third parties to collect or share data about you. We do not control these third-party websites and are not responsible for their privacy statements. When you leave our website, we encourage you to read the privacy policy of every website you visit.

14. Use of Cookies

Our website uses cookies to distinguish you from other users of our website. This helps us to provide you with a good experience when you browse our website and allows us to improve our site.

A cookie is a small file of letters and numbers that we store on your browser or the hard drive of your computer if you agree. Cookies contain information that is transferred to your computer's hard drive.

We use the following cookies:

- **Strictly necessary cookies.** These are cookies that are required for the operation of our website. These essential cookies are always enabled because our website won't work properly without them. They include, for example, cookies that enable you to log into secure areas of our website, use a shopping cart or make use of e-billing services. You can switch off these cookies in your browser settings, but you may then not be able to access all or parts of our website.
- **Analytical or performance cookies.** These allow us to recognise and count the number of visitors and to see how visitors move around our website when they are using it. This helps us to improve the way our website works, for example, by ensuring that users are finding what they are looking for easily.
- **Functionality cookies.** These are used to recognise you when you return to our website. This enables us to personalise our content for you, greet you by name and remember your preferences (for example, your choice of language or region).

The information collected by cookies is not personally identifiable, it includes general information about your computer settings, your connection to the internet e.g. operating system and platform, IP address and geographical location. We do not use any advertising cookies. We use cookies in a range of ways to improve your experience on our site, including:

- Recognise you when you return to our site.
- Member log-in function.
- Keeping you signed in.
- Delivering content to you.
- Speed up your searches.
- Estimate our audience size and understand how our website is used.
- Reminding you to complete online journeys (e.g. registration flow).
- Processing payments.

Please note that we may also use, Google Analytics cookie. Our Google Analytics cookies store only general data, and do not store data about individuals.

Most internet browsers accept cookies automatically, but usually you can alter the settings of your browser to erase cookies or prevent automatic acceptance if you prefer.