

POLICY FOR RECORDING OF CONSULTATIONS AND USE OF MOBILE TELEPHONES

Riverside Surgery accepts that in certain circumstances patients may want to record certain parts of a consultation or a whole consultation in order to recall what was said at a later time. Indeed there may be circumstances where we may want to record consultations in order for training purposes etc. We would never ask to record consultations without the full approval of our patients and would always seek permission to do so from every patient prior to any consultation. Conversely, we would ask that if patients would like to make a recording of a consultation that the GP/Nurse is given the same opportunity to consent or not prior to the consultation. If either patient or GP/Nurse records a consultation Riverside Surgery retains the right to ask for a copy of the recording so that it may be entered into the patient's permanent record. In all cases, as with all written entries into a patients permanent record, the content of any recordings between patients and GP/Nurses is to remain confidential and should never be divulged to a third party without express permission of the patient unless for clinical reasons.

In all consultations, we ask that patients switch off mobile telephones as they can prove distracting both for patient and GP/Nurse. Notices are displayed prominently throughout the Surgery.

Technological advances will undoubtedly bring further changes and it may well be that in 20 years' time, recording of consultations, with copies being held by both doctor and patient, will be commonplace.