

specialists. Patient information contained on these registers is kept strictly confidential. Further details about these registers can be obtained from the Department of Health website www.health.sa.gov.au.

Supplying your health information is voluntary, except where required by law. However, health care providers are obliged to record details of services provided. Where you decide to withhold or restrict access to your health information, you should be aware that this may compromise your future care or treatment, should further treatment or care be required, particularly where the information is directly related to the required subsequent care or treatment.

For further information about the Code of Fair Information Practice you can obtain a full version copy to peruse from the Administration Office at the Hospital.



**TAILEM BEND
DISTRICT HOSPITAL**

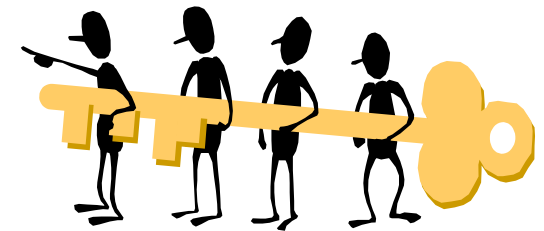
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**TAILEM BEND
DISTRICT HOSPITAL**

**CODE OF FAIR
INFORMATION
PRACTICE**

Information for Clients



CODE OF FAIR INFORMATION PRACTICE—Information for Clients

INTRODUCTION

The role of Department of Health is to provide access to services that enhance and protect the health, social wellbeing and quality of life for the community.

The Department of Health is involved in handling large quantities of personal information that is often highly sensitive.

It is important that consumers have confidence that the Department will handle your personal information in a fair, secure and appropriate manner. To achieve this the Department has introduced a Code of Fair Information Practice.



CLIENT INFORMATION

The Tailem Bend District Hospital is part of the Hills Mallee Southern Health Service. We work together to provide you with the best possible care and treatment.

The freedom of Information Act gives you a legal right of access to documents held by our unit. Application forms and further information is available by contacting the Freedom of Information Officer.

Your medical record is the basis for planning for your care and treatment. Every time you attend this hospital, new information will be added to your record, ie information such as the problem for which you are seeking treatment, details of the treatment and any medication given.



Your medical record is a means of communication for the many health professionals at this hospital who contribute to your care (including those employed under contract such as Visiting Medical Officers). So that we can work together for your benefit while you

are a patient here, your health information will be made available to those health professionals in your treating team.



Your information is securely stored in a central paper-based case file. Information is also stored on our computer system. This means that your health information (or parts thereof) is available electronically to healthcare professionals at Department of Health.

When you go home you may also receive care from other people. So that we can work together for your benefit, we may need to share information about you. We only ever pass on personal information about you to people who are directly involved in your care or treatment.

The law requires that certain information about patients who have specific conditions and treatment (for example some infectious diseases) must be reported to databases or registers maintained by public health