

Privacy Policy



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Drafted by	Marie Malica	Date approved by Board	24 August 2018
Person responsible	Marie Malica	Scheduled review date	August 2020

Introduction

The Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) endeavours to deal with personal information in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles.

Personal information is information or an opinion that identifies or could reasonably identify an individual.

Purpose

The purpose of this Privacy Policy is to summarise how COSA deals with personal information.

Background

COSA is the peak Australian body representing multidisciplinary health professionals whose work encompasses cancer care, research and control. As a membership organisation, COSA's functions and activities are driven by the needs of its members.

COSA collects and handles personal information in order to carry out its activities including, among other things, membership information management and communication.

Collection of personal information

COSA collects personal information from its members, employees, directors and committee members, suppliers, service providers and other people connected with its activities.

The types of personal information COSA collects include:

- contact details (for example, name, address, professional information, telephone numbers and email)
- demographic information (for example, gender and date of birth)
- professional information (for example, qualifications and specialties) and
- activity-related information (participation in COSA activities and events).

In conducting its activities, COSA may collect health and other sensitive information. For example, COSA collects:

- medical history information from employees and
- information about a member's membership in other health professional associations.

COSA collects personal information directly from individuals in the following ways:

- electronically through COSA's website and online surveys
- from forms and other correspondence (including electronically)
- during telephone calls
- while delivering and administering services and
- face to face contact.

Purpose of Collection and Use

COSA collects personal information as required to carry out one or more of its functions or activities, including:

- to provide membership services and maintain membership records
- to provide continuing professional development, education and training
- to co-ordinate and convene the Annual Scientific Meeting
- to enable planning, policy and service development and to market, advertise or otherwise promote COSA activities, including to inform individuals of special offers or additional services provided by COSA
- to conduct or facilitate member surveys; such surveys will be communicated from COSA on behalf of a third party in accordance with the COSA Survey Policy
- to recruit suitable applicants to vacancies within COSA
- to communicate with directors about meetings and COSA business
- to communicate with staff about all work related matters

Information may also be used for secondary purposes as required or permitted by law. For example, if an individual completed a form to register their interest in or attendance at the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) COSA may use the individual's contact details for the purposes of promoting other COSA educational activities.

Disclosure

COSA only discloses personal information for the primary purpose for which it was collected, or for a secondary purpose as required or permitted by law.

For example, COSA may disclose personal information to third parties it engages to assist it in performing its functions, most often related to the Annual Scientific Meeting. Where disclosure takes place, COSA aims to include protective provisions regarding the handling of personal information in contracts with third parties.

When conducting a member survey on behalf of a third party, COSA does not disclose personal information to that third party.

Storage and Security

COSA stores personal information electronically and in hard copy, and has secure record-keeping systems. COSA takes all reasonable steps to protect personal information from unauthorised use, access, disclosure and alteration.

IT protection systems and internal procedures are also utilised to protect the personal information held by COSA. COSA may store electronic information on remote servers or in the cloud directly or through contracted agencies (such as the contracted professional conference organiser managing COSA Annual Scientific Meeting logistics – all information is securely stored in Australia with backups securely stored in the United States of America and encrypted before transfer back to Australia).

COSA uses Secure Socket Layer (SSL) certificates which is the industry standard for encrypting personal COSA membership information collected via the COSA website. COSA does not store member credit or debit card information. COSA uses a third party provider, which provides a secure online payment gateway solution for credit card and direct debit processing of COSA membership payments.

Personal data is maintained under strict security and is only to be accessed internally by the COSA staff who require access as part of their role or to complete a task.

Records containing personal information will be held by COSA until there is no longer a need or obligation to retain such records, after which time they will be deleted, destroyed or de-identified.

Links to third party websites from the COSA website may be provided. The COSA Privacy Policy does not apply to external websites. The operators of external websites may collect personal information.

Cookies

A record of each visit to the COSA website is logged – this is a small data file known as a cookie. A cookie does not identify individuals personally, but it does identify computers. Browser setting can be adjusted to disable cookies.

The following information from cookies is recorded to compile statistical information about the use of the COSA website. It is not used for any other purpose.

- IP address and/or domain name
- Operating system (type of browser and platform)
- The date, time and length of visit to the COSA website
- Pages and resources accessed, as well as documents downloaded

Access and Correction

COSA takes all reasonable steps to maintain the accuracy of personal information it holds. Individuals are encouraged to contact COSA if the personal information held is incorrect or to notify COSA if personal information has changed.

COSA members can view and change their personal details via their online membership profile on the COSA website.

An individual may also contact the COSA Executive Officer by telephone (02) 8063 4100 or email cosa@cancer.org.au to access or update their personal information. They will be required to provide their request in writing. Access will be provided unless the request is unreasonable or the applicable privacy laws permit or require COSA to decline access.

Complaints and concerns

Any concerns about COSA's handling of personal information should be directed to the COSA Executive Officer by telephone (02) 8063 4100 or email cosa@cancer.org.au. COSA may require complaints to be submitted in writing. After COSA receives all the relevant information, it will endeavour to resolve the complaint as soon as reasonably practical.

The website of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) is an additional source of information www.oaic.gov.au. If an individual is not satisfied with how COSA has handled their complaint, they may wish to contact the OAIC.

Responsibilities

All COSA Members, Staff, Board and Committee members will adhere to COSA's Privacy Policy at all times.

Related Documents

Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) (Privacy Act)*

* Note: The passage of the Privacy Act – the *Privacy Amendment (Notifiable Data Breaches) Act 2017* – established the Notifiable Data Breaches (NDB) scheme in Australia. The NDB scheme applies to all agencies and organisations with existing personal information security obligations under the Australian Privacy Act from 22 February 2018. As at July 2018, with an annual turnover of less than \$3 million, COSA is not required to comply with the NDB scheme. However, should a breach occur the COSA Audit, Risk and Finance Committee must be notified, who will make a determination if action should be taken.