



Information note for patients November 2010

Ownership of X-ray films and other medical images

Chiropractors must keep complete health records

1. X-rays or other medical images taken or ordered by a chiropractor must be kept by the chiropractor as part of your health record for a period of **eight** years after the date of your last visit. This is one of the legal requirements of the *Code of Practice* published by the General Chiropractic Council (GCC) - the UK-wide statutory regulator of chiropractors.

Releasing X-rays to another health professional

2. Should you want another health professional to look at your X-rays or other medical images, your chiropractor may be willing to release them to you or, with your consent, to your health professional of choice. **Although this must be on the clear understanding that the X-ray films or other medical images will be returned to your chiropractor.**

The Data Protection Act 1998

3. Under the Data Protection Act, you are entitled to a **copy** of your health record, including X-rays or other medical images, and your chiropractor may make a reasonable charge for the copy of up to £50.

More information

4. Please ask your chiropractor if you have any questions about the information in this notice.

5. For a free copy of the GCC's *Code of Practice* telephone the GCC on 0845 601 1796 (local rates number) or read it on www.gcc-uk.org .

6. The Data Protection Act is upheld by the Office of the Information Commissioner. It has detailed information on www.ico.gov.uk and a helpline: 0303 123 1113 open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

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