

PRIVACY POLICY

Policy version: 07/04/2025

1 INTRODUCTION

This Privacy Policy is provided by **Institute of Registered Veterinary and Animal Physiotherapists**, a Not-for-Profit organisation registered in England and Wales with registered office at Unit E, Greenforde Farm, Business Park, Stoner Hill, Hampshire, GU32 1DY ('we', 'our' or 'us') for use of our website www.irvap.org.uk (**Website**).

We take your privacy very seriously. Please read this privacy policy carefully as it contains important information on how and why we collect, store, use and share any information relating to you (your **personal data**).

It also explains your rights in relation to your personal data and how to contact us or the relevant regulator in the event you have a complaint. Our collection, storage, use and sharing of your personal data is regulated by law, including under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (**UK GDPR**).

We are the controller of personal data obtained via the Website, meaning we are the organisation legally responsible for deciding how and for what purposes it is used.

2 WHAT THIS POLICY APPLIES TO

This privacy policy relates to your use of the Website or your interaction with us through email, social media platforms or any other mode of communication.

The Website may link to or rely on other apps, websites, APIs or services owned and operated by us or by certain trusted third parties to enable us to provide you with access and use of the Website and services. These other apps, websites, APIs or services may also gather information about you in accordance with their own separate privacy policies. For privacy information relating to these other apps, websites or services, please consult their privacy policies as appropriate. For more information see the section '**Who we share your personal data with**' below.

3 PERSONAL DATA WE COLLECT ABOUT YOU

The personal data we collect about you depends on the particular activities carried out through the Website. We will collect and use the following personal data about you:

Category of data	In more detail
Data collected when you use specific functions in the Website	Data you store online with us using the Website including your usage history or preferences (while such data may not always be personal data as defined at law in all cases, we will assume it is and treat it in accordance with this policy as if it were)
Data collected when use any services provided through the Website (such as mentoring service, membership, insurance service etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identity information e.g. name, date of birth, gender• Contact information e.g. name, address, telephone number, website address, and email address.• Business information e.g. name of business, trading name, profession, job title, contact information, qualifications, CPD training undertaken, Company's House number for Limited companies (insurance purposes).• Payment information e.g. bank card details, bank account details.• Insurance information – member name, insurer, cover levels, policy expiry date.

Category of data	In more detail
Other data the Website collects automatically when you use it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your activities on, and use of, the Website which reveal your preferences, interests or manner of use of the Website and the times of use Other information such as device type, IMEA numbers, MAC address of networks, other unique device identification, device operating system, mobile network information, app version number, storage usage, data usage, time zone settings etc., in the course of accessing and using the Website.
Data collected when you make an enquiry with us, contact us via email or telephone or reach out to us through social media.	Your name and email address

We collect and use this personal data for the purposes described in the section ‘**How and why we use your personal data**’ below.

4 SENSITIVE DATA

Sensitive personal data (also known as special category data) means information related to personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin; political opinions; religious or philosophical beliefs; trade union membership; genetic data; biometric data (where used for identification purposes); data concerning health; data concerning a person’s sex life; and data concerning a person’s sexual orientation.

Please note that we do not knowingly or intentionally collect sensitive personal data or information about criminal convictions from individuals and that you should not submit sensitive data to us.

If, however you do submit sensitive data to us, such as if you make this sensitive data available to other users of the Website (such as by publishing it through any forum feature, we may make available from time to time) we will assume that you have purposefully made any such sensitive data manifestly public.

5 HOW YOUR PERSONAL DATA IS COLLECTED

We collect personal data from you directly when you submit the enquiry and membership form through the Website, submit the offline membership form, access any services provided through the Website, contact us directly via telephone or email or reach out to us via social media, or indirectly, such as your activity while using the Website.

At this point in time, we do not collect any personal information about you using cookies or similar technologies. In the event that this were to change and if we were to decide to collect personal data about you using cookies, you would be notified of this change by means of in-app notification, with detailed information regarding our use of cookies and similar technologies to be made available in the relevant cookies policy.

6 HOW AND WHY WE USE YOUR PERSONAL DATA

Under data protection law, we can only use your personal data if we have a proper reason, e.g.:

- (i) where you have given consent
- (ii) to comply with our legal and regulatory obligations
- (iii) for the performance of a contract with you or to take steps at your request before entering into a contract, or
- (iv) for our legitimate interests or those of a third party

A legitimate interest is when we have a business or commercial reason to use your information, so long as this is not overridden by your own rights and interests. We will carry out an assessment when relying on legitimate interests, to balance our interests against your own. You can obtain details of this assessment by contacting us (see ‘**How to contact us**’ below).

The table below explains what we use your personal data for and why.

What we use your personal data for	Our reasons
Create and manage your account with us	To perform our contract with you or to take steps at your request before entering into a contract
Providing services and/or the functionalities of the Website to you	Depending on the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to perform our contract with you or to take steps at your request before entering into a contract (in this case, the contract means the Terms and Conditions of Use which apply to the Website) • to provide you with services requested through the Website such as administering your membership, providing the 'Find A Therapist' service, sharing your details with the insurance partner, i.e., Towergate insurance etc.
To enforce legal rights or defend or undertake legal proceedings	Depending on the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to comply with our legal and regulatory obligations • in other cases, for our legitimate interests or those of a third party, i.e. to protect our business, interests and rights or those of others
Communications with you not related to marketing, including about changes to our terms or policies or changes to the Website or other important notices	Depending on the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to comply with our legal and regulatory obligations • in other cases, for our legitimate interests or those of a third party, i.e., to provide the best service to you
Protect the security of systems and data	To comply with our legal and regulatory obligations we may also use your personal data to ensure the security of systems and data to a standard that goes beyond our legal obligations, and in those cases our reasons are for our legitimate interests or those of a third party, i.e., to protect systems and data and to prevent and detect criminal activity that could be damaging for you and/or us
Operational reasons, such as improving efficiency, training, and quality control or to provide support to you	For our legitimate interests or those of a third party, i.e., to be as efficient as we can so we can deliver the best service to you
Statistical analysis to help us manage our business, e.g., in relation to our performance, customer base, app and functionalities and offerings or other efficiency measures	For our legitimate interests or those of a third party, i.e. to be as efficient as we can so we can deliver the best service to you and improve and develop our Website.
Updating and enhancing user records	Depending on the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to perform our contract with you or to take steps at your request before entering into a contract (in this case, the contract means the Terms and Conditions of Use which apply to your use of the Website) • to comply with our legal and regulatory obligations • where neither of the above apply, for our legitimate interests or those of a third party, e.g. making sure that we can keep in touch with our members/users about their accounts, new functionalities related to the Website, updates about the services provided by us etc.

What we use your personal data for	Our reasons
To comply with our legal and regulatory obligations	Depending on the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to perform our contract with you or to take steps at your request before entering into a contract (in this case, the contract means the Terms and Conditions of Use which apply to your use of the Website) • to comply with our legal and regulatory obligations • where neither of the above apply, for our legitimate interests or those of a third party, e.g. making sure that we can keep in touch with our customers about their accounts, new functionalities related to the Website, updates about the services provided by us etc.
To share your personal data with members of our group and third parties in connection with a significant corporate transaction or restructuring, including a merger, acquisition, asset sale, initial public offering or in the event of our insolvency. In such cases information will be anonymised where possible and only shared where necessary	Depending on the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to comply with our legal and regulatory obligations • in other cases, for our legitimate interests or those of a third party, i.e., to protect, realise or grow the value in our business and assets

See 'Who we share your personal data with' for further information on the steps we will take to protect your personal data where we need to share it with others.

7 MARKETING

We intend to send you email marketing to inform you of our services such as promotions.

We will always ask you for your consent before sending you marketing communications, except where you have explicitly opted-in to receiving email marketing from us in the past or except where you were given the option to opt-out of email marketing when you initially submitted the enquiry form on the Website or signed up for receiving services from us and you did not do so.

You will have the right to opt out of receiving marketing communications at any time by:

- contacting us at membership@irvap.org.uk
- using the 'unsubscribe' link included in all marketing emails you may receive from us

We will always treat your personal data with utmost respect and never sell or share it with other organisations for marketing purposes.

For more information on your right to object at any time to your personal data being used for marketing purposes, see 'Your rights' below.

8 WHO WE SHARE YOUR PERSONAL DATA WITH

We routinely share personal data with service providers we use to help us run our business or provide the services or functionalities in the Website, including developers, cloud storage providers etc.

We only allow service providers to handle your personal data if we are satisfied that they take appropriate measures to protect your personal data. We also impose contractual obligations on service providers to ensure they can only use your personal data to provide services to us and to you.

We or the third parties mentioned above may occasionally also need to share your personal data with:

- external auditors, e.g. in relation to the audit of our accounts and our company —the recipient of the information will be bound by confidentiality obligations
- professional advisors (such as lawyers and other advisors)—the recipient of the information will be bound by confidentiality obligations
- law enforcement agencies, courts or tribunals and regulatory bodies to comply with legal and regulatory obligations
- other parties in connection with a significant corporate transaction or restructuring, including a merger, acquisition, asset sale, initial public offering or in the event of our insolvency—usually, information will be anonymised but this may not always be possible, however, the recipient of the information will be bound by confidentiality obligations

If you would like more information about who we share our data with and why, please contact us (see **‘How to contact us’** below).

We will not share your personal data with any other third party.

9 HOW LONG YOUR PERSONAL DATA WILL BE KEPT

We will keep your personal data for as long as you have an ongoing contractual relationship with us and for a period of up to 6 years thereafter to comply with any accounting or legal obligations including in the event of the pursuit or defence of legal claims. Once your contractual relationship with us comes to end, we will move your personal data to a separate database so that only key stakeholders in our business on a ‘need to know basis’ have access to such data.

Following the end of the of the aforementioned retention period, we will delete or anonymise your personal data.

10 TRANSFERRING YOUR PERSONAL DATA OUT OF THE UK

At this point in time, we do not transfer your personal data outside of the UK. If this changes, we would comply with applicable UK laws designed to ensure the continued protection and privacy of your personal data. Any updated destinations to which we send your personal data, would be indicated in the present section and notified to you in accordance with the section on **‘Change to this privacy policy’** below.

Furthermore, under UK data protection laws, we can only transfer your personal data to a country outside the UK where: the UK government has decided the particular country ensures an adequate level of protection of personal data (known as an ‘adequacy regulation’) further to Article 45 of the UK GDPR; there are appropriate safeguards in place, together with enforceable rights and effective legal remedies for you; or a specific exception applies under relevant data protection law. Accordingly, if we were to start transferring your personal data from the UK to:

- The EEA: we would rely on the adequacy finding granted by the UK to the EU under the Withdrawal Agreement to do; for any transfers from the EU to the UK, we would rely on the adequacy regulation granted to the UK under the Adequacy Decision.
- Any country located outside the UK/EEA: we would rely on appropriate safeguards under the UK GDPR, such as by including the relevant Standard Contractual Clauses in our data processing agreements

In the event we could not or choose not to continue to rely on either of those mechanisms at any time we would not transfer your personal data outside the UK unless we could do so on the basis of an alternative mechanism or exception provided by UK data protection law.

11 YOUR RIGHTS

You generally have the following rights, which you can usually exercise free of charge. For more information regarding these rights, please visit the ICO website [here](#).

Access to a copy of your personal data	The right to be provided with a copy of your personal data.
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Correction (also known as rectification)	The right to require us to correct any mistakes in your personal data.
Erasure (also known as the right to be forgotten)	The right to require us to delete your personal data—in certain situations.
Restriction of use	The right to require us to restrict use of your personal data in certain circumstances, e.g. if you contest the accuracy of the data.
Data portability	The right to receive the personal data you provided to us, in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format and/or transmit that data to a third party—in certain situations.
To object to use	The right to object: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at any time to your personal data being used for direct marketing (including profiling) in certain other situations to our continued use of your personal data, e.g. where we use your personal data for our legitimate interests.
Not to be subject to decisions without human involvement	The right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing (including profiling) that produces legal effects concerning you or similarly significantly affects you. We do not make any such decisions based on data collected through the Website.

For further information on each of those rights, including the circumstances in which they do and do not apply, please contact us (see '**How to contact us**' below). You may also find it helpful to refer to the guidance from the UK's Information Commissioner on your rights under the UK GDPR.

If you would like to exercise any of those rights, please email us – see below: '**How to contact us**'. When contacting us, please:

- provide enough information to identify yourself (e.g., your full name and email address) and any additional identity information we may reasonably request from you, and
- let us know which right(s) you want to exercise and the information to which your request relates

12 KEEPING YOUR PERSONAL DATA SECURE

We have appropriate security measures to prevent personal data from being accidentally lost, or used or accessed unlawfully. We limit access to your personal data to those who have a genuine business need to access it.

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

If you want detailed information from 'Get Safe Online' on how to protect your information and your computers and devices against fraud, identity theft, viruses and many other online problems, please visit www.getsafeonline.org. Get Safe Online is supported by HM Government and leading businesses.

13 HOW TO COMPLAIN

Please contact us if you have any queries or concerns about our use of your information (see below '**How to contact us**'). We hope we will be able to resolve any issues you may have.

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint> or telephone: 0303 123 1113.

14 CHANGES TO THIS PRIVACY POLICY

We may change this privacy policy from time to time. When we make significant changes, we will take steps to inform you, for example via the Website or by other means, such as email.

15 HOW TO CONTACT US

You can contact us by email at membership@irvap.org.uk, if you have any questions about this privacy policy or the information we hold about you, to exercise a right under data protection law or to make a complaint.