

PRIVACY POLICY & GDPR STATEMENT

Cambridge Sex Therapy Clinic & Sex Therapy – Online

1. Introduction

At Cambridge Sex Therapy Clinic and Sex Therapy – Online, I take your data privacy very seriously. This policy outlines how your personal information is collected, processed, stored, and protected in full compliance with UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

2. Data Controller and Registration

As a sole practitioner, I act as the Data Controller for your information.

Data Controller: Dr Alireza Tabatabaie (Dr Ali Taba)

Telephone Contact: 01223 653962 / 07907 726578

Email Contact: taba@cantab.net

3. Scope of Personal Data Collected

Personal data refers to any information that relates to you or allows you to be identified. I collect and process two categories of data:

Standard Personal Data: This includes foundational details such as your name, home address, email address, telephone number, country of residence, date of birth, and your GP's contact details.

Special Category (Sensitive) Data: Due to the specialised nature of psychotherapy, this includes highly personal details such as sexual orientation, gender identity, relationship status, ethnicity, religious or cultural beliefs, and physical or mental health conditions.

4. Legal Basis and Purpose of Processing

As a business owner and clinician, I process your data under the legal basis of legitimate interests and the provision of health or social care. Your data is used strictly:

- To deliver safe, effective, and tailored psychological therapy.
- To maintain accurate records and monitor administrative communications.
- To manage business operations, auditing, and financial accounting.
- To comply with all statutory, legal, and professional regulatory obligations.

During our clinical work, I take notes (which may be detailed) to track your therapeutic journey, analyse patterns, and support you in achieving your therapy goals.

5. Data Sharing and Third Parties

I maintain a strict policy of never selling or sharing your data with third parties for marketing purposes. Your personal information will not be disclosed to others, except under the safety-critical and legally mandated circumstances detailed in Section 3 of Part 1.

Where clinical or legal sharing is required (such as communicating with your GP or emergency services), I will make every reasonable effort to seek your explicit permission first.

5.1 Clinic and Supervision Exceptions

Clinical Supervision: In line with professional duties, cases are periodically reviewed in individual or group clinical supervision to ensure the highest standards of care. All cases discussed are strictly anonymised to protect your identity.

In-Person Sessions Only: For clients seen face-to-face, a secure copy of case notes and personal records is securely maintained at Spire Cambridge Lea Hospital to satisfy mandatory hospital record-keeping rules.

6. Data Security and Retention

Appropriate technical and organisational security measures are implemented to guard your information systems against accidental destruction, loss, or unauthorised access.

In accordance with regulatory guidelines from the College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists (COSRT), your personal data and clinical records are retained securely for 7 years following your final therapy session.

This timeline applies explicitly to adult clients. Once this period expires, all paper records are securely shredded and all electronic data is permanently deleted.

7. Your Statutory Rights and Accessing Your Data

Under data protection legislation, you hold specific rights regarding your personal information, though certain limitations apply to medical and clinical files:

Right of Access: You can request a copy of the personal data held about you at no charge. I will respond to your request within one calendar month. To protect confidentiality, proof of identity will be required before data is released.

Right to Rectification: You have the right to amend or correct any factual inaccuracies in your records (such as an incorrect date of birth or misspelled address).

Exemption to the Right to Erasure ("Right to be Forgotten"): Please note that under Article 17(3) of the UK GDPR, the Right to Erasure does not apply to clinical health and therapy records. Because I am under a strict regulatory and professional obligation to retain records for a mandatory period of 7 years to ensure clinical accountability and continuity of care, requests for the early deletion or destruction of clinical notes cannot be fulfilled.

8. Data Breach Protocol

While comprehensive security safeguards are in place, a data breach remains a technical possibility (e.g., accidental destruction, unauthorised alteration, or malicious access by an unauthorised third party).

If you suspect a data breach has occurred, please notify me immediately so I can take corrective actions. All breaches will be formally recorded. If a breach poses a high risk to your individual rights and freedoms, I will notify you without undue delay and report the incident to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) within 72 hours.

9. Use of Cookies and Website Tracking

My websites use cookies to collect anonymous, aggregate statistical data about browsing actions and traffic patterns. Cookies are small text files stored on your hard drive that help improve website functionality and deliver a more personalised user experience; they do not identify you as an individual.

Managing Cookies: You can disable or clear cookies at any time through your web browser settings.

Alternatively, you can manage third-party tracking preferences via platforms like optout.aboutads.info or youronlinechoices.com.

Google Analytics: I utilise Google Analytics to measure website traffic. Google operates under its own Privacy Policy. You can permanently opt out of this tracking by visiting the Google Analytics Opt-out Browser Add-on.

10. Regulatory Complaints

If you have questions or concerns regarding how your data is handled, please discuss them with me directly so I can resolve the issue. You also retain the statutory right to lodge a formal complaint with the UK data regulator:

Regulatory Body: Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

Website: <https://ico.org.uk>

This Privacy Policy is kept under regular review to ensure ongoing legal compliance. Last updated: August 2026.