

Child Safe Policy

Dr Simone Doreian Cosmetic Clinic ("we," or "our") are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for patients who are children, as well as creating and maintaining a child-safe and child-friendly environment in our practice. This Child Safety Policy outlines our practices in meeting the Victorian Child Safe Standards and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children.

As general practitioners in charge of Dr Simone Doreian Cosmetic Clinic, we are responsible for ensuring that an environment is maintained, and advice and treatment decisions are made, in a way that complies with child safety policies. We regularly review our practices and this policy to ensure that they reflect quality, evidence-based practice and otherwise comply with the Victorian Child Safe Standards.

Key principles

- **Child-centred approach:** As far as possible, we prioritise the best interests and safety of the child in relation to all operational and medical recommendations and decisions. Children who are patients will be given the opportunity to express their views, ask questions and have their voices heard regarding their own care and safety. In doing so, however, we will also have regard to the views of patients' parents or guardians, including whether the parent or guardian supports the procedure being performed.
- **Education and training:** We and our staff will undertake ongoing education regarding child safety, recognising the signs of abuse or neglect, and the appropriate actions to take when concerns are identified.
- **Complaints and reporting:** We encourage children, their families, and staff to report any concerns about child safety promptly.
- **Cultural safety:** We respect and promote cultural safety, recognizing that different cultures may have different perspectives on child safety.

Application of the Child-Centred Approach

As part of the child-centred approach, we:

- engage with children directly to understand their views and adapt our recommendations to address their needs and reasonable expectations. In doing so, we will actively assess the child's capacity for decision-making. This test is known as *Gillick competence*, which is whether the child has achieved sufficient understanding, intelligence and maturity to enable the child to understand fully both the reasons why medical treatment is proposed and the risks of medical treatment.
- utilise a shared decision-making process (by including the child's parent in decision-making) if there is any doubt that the child lacks full competence and financial capacity to decide about medical treatment on their own
- do not prescribe Botulinum toxin or dermal fillers for patients under the age of 18, solely for cosmetic purposes. For clarity, we may provide procedures that have a medical justification and which may also lead (as a secondary matter) to improvement in appearance, such as procedures that involve the restoration, correction or improvement in the shape and appearance of body structures that are defective or damaged at birth or by injury, disease, growth or development for either functional or psychological reasons.
- impose a mandatory seven (7) day cooling off period between the time at which consent is given for a procedure, and the time when the procedure takes place.

- encourage the young person to discuss the procedure with their regular general practitioner;

Staff

We have and will maintain a valid Working With Children check, and will ensure that all staff (including locum doctors) who work at Dr Simone Doreian Cosmetic Clinic undergo a robust recruitment and selection process that includes comprehensive background checks.

All staff will be required to report any concerns related to child safety. We will also encourage, supervise and support all staff to effectively carry out their child safety responsibilities, including responding to suspected child abuse.

Risk Assessment and Mitigation

We regularly assess and review potential risks to child safety within our practice (particularly in relation to the adverse effects of medication on minors) and take steps to mitigate these risks.

Concerns and complaints

Children, their families, and staff are encouraged to report any concerns, suspicions, or allegations related to child safety. These reports will be taken seriously and handled confidentially. A copy of our Complaints Policy can be found here [\[insert hyperlink\]](#)

Contact details

If you have any questions or concerns about this Policy, please contact us at info@doreiancosmeticclinic.com.au