**GP Information Sharing Guide for MARACs**

A **MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference)** is a victim-focused meeting where multiple agencies share information to develop a safety plan for High Risk domestic abuse victims. Agencies include Police, Social Care, Health, Probation, Mental Health, IDVAs & Housing. **All agencies must sign a declaration of confidentiality prior to taking part in the MARAC process.**

There are **three guides** for GPs to advise them of how to share information for MARACs:

1. **SafeLives –** ***‘MARAC - Guidance for GPs’***
2. **Department of Health/UK Council of Caldicott Guardians – *‘Practical Guidance on the application of Caldicott Guardian Principles to Domestic Violence and MARACs’***
3. **CAADA & Royal College of General Practitioners – *‘Guidance for General Practitioners’***

**SafeLives - *‘MARAC - Guidance for GPs’***

Has a section on ‘How to Share Information Safely at a MARAC’ which displays a table of legal Acts information can be shared under without consent (see below).



**Department of Health/UK Council of Caldicott Guardians**

Explains the **‘Caldicott Principles’** and how **MARAC must comply with ALL principles**.
1. Formally Justify the Purpose – *It can be justified in the individual’s best interest.*2. Identifiable Information when Necessary – *Identifiable information is necessary.*3. Only Minimum Required Used – *Proportional disclosure based on risk.*
4. Need to Know Access – *MARAC needs to know (Agencies sign a confidentiality declaration).*5. All Must Understand Responsibilities – *MARAC statement read aloud prior to meeting starting.*6. Comply with/understanding the Law – *Caldicott Guardians should ensure ‘Caldicott Compliance’.*

**CAADA & Royal College of General Practitioners – *‘Guidance for General Practitioners’***

Explains that the primary health care teams role is to *‘Share information appropriately.* ***In exceptional circumstances information may be shared without the patient’s consent.*** *Some cases considered at* ***MARAC meetings are likely to constitute exceptional circumstances*** *because MARACs discuss the most serious cases of alleged or suspected domestic abuse.*