General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and ECEIM

The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a regulation in EU law on data privacy that became enforceable on May 25th, 2018. The GDPR ensures that private citizens have more control over their personal data used by businesses. The European College of Equine Internal Medicine (ECEIM) is committed to correct processing of personal data in compliance with the EU GDPR. As a data controller, ECEIM will always inform members what personal data is collected, for what purpose, how it is used and stored and for how long it is stored. ECEIM processes personal data for the purposes of administration of the member’s diplomate title and status. Member data will not be shared with third parties without the member’s consent.

To continue processing your data, ECEIM must have your **active consent** for the following:

**TO ALLOW THE EUROPEAN COLLEGE OF EQUINE INTERNAL MEDICINE (ECEIM) AND THE EUROPEAN BOARD OF VETERINARY SPECIALISATION (EBVS) TO USE YOUR DATA**

Consent can be withdrawn at any time by contacting the ECEIM secretary (link found on the ECEIM website). However, data processing is necessary for awarding/maintaining diplomate/specialist status. Below you will find more information on how and why the ECEIM uses and stores member data.

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What is personal data?

Personal data is any information that identifies an individual.

Who will process personal data?

Personal data will only be processed by the European College of Equine Internal Medicine (ECEIM) and the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS). *Data will not be shared with third parties without informed consent.*

ECEIM diplomates may choose what data they would like to have publicly available on the EBVS website by logging into [https://ebvs.eu/Users/Account/Logon](https://ebvs.eu/Users/Account/Logon). ECEIM diplomates have the right to ask ECEIM and EBVS to correct any inaccurate personal information or to delete personal information (contact the ECEIM secretary via the ECEIM website).

What is the purpose and legal basis for processing personal data?
Personal information will be used in the following ways:
- by ECEIM to provide evidence of specialist training, passing the exam and status of accreditation;
- by EBVS to ensure that the standards are met in order to award the title EBVS European Veterinary Specialist in Equine Internal Medicine;
- by ECEIM and EBVS to contact members regarding their diplomate/specialist status;
- by ECEIM to communicate news and upcoming events;
- by ECEIM and EBVS to conduct surveys, compile statistics and data for internal and statutory reporting purposes. For these purposes, all personal data will be anonymized.
- By ECEIM to deliver services to members.

We consider the processing of personal information for these purposes to be either necessary for the performance of our obligations with members (e.g. to manage a member’s specialist status), necessary for compliance with a legal obligation, or necessary for the performance of tasks carried out in the public interest (e.g. non-statutory reporting or research). ECEIM asks members to provide any information required to enable ECEIM to manage a diplomate/specialist status. If ECEIM requires consent for any specific use of personal information, this will be collected at the appropriate time with members allowed to withdraw consent at any time. ECEIM will not use personal information to carry out any automated decision-making that affects members.

What personal information will be processed?

ECEIM will keep a record of the following for residents and diplomates:
- name, nationality, current contact details, qualifications (these will also be shared with EBVS);
- credentials;
- exam results;
- (re-)certification documentation and any supporting documents requested;

How will personal information be processed?

Personal information is created, stored and transmitted securely in a variety of paper and electronic formats, including some databases that are shared between EBVS and ECEIM. Access to personal information is limited to EBVS or ECEIM staff who have a legitimate interest in it for the purpose of carrying out their duties.

How long will personal information be stored?

Personal data will be stored for as long as a member is an ECEIM diplomate. When a diplomate retires and no longer requires the services of ECEIM or EBVS, the member can opt to store only the most basic data. This includes a member’s name, data of obtaining specialist status, membership of committees and date of retirement. The purpose of this data is to provide historical records for ECEIM and will be kept as long as ECEIM exists.