

# HIPPA Notice of Privacy Practices

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THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

This Notice of Privacy Practices describes how we may use and disclose your protected health information (PHI) to carry out treatment, payment or healthcare operations (TPO) and for other purposes that are permitted or required by law. It also describes your rights to access and control your PHI. This is information about you, including demographic information, that may identify you and that is related to your past, present or future physical or mental health and related healthcare services.

## **Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information**

Your PHI may be used and disclosed by your physician, our office staff, and others outside of our office that are involved in your care and treatment for the purpose of providing healthcare services to you, to pay your healthcare bills, to support the operation of the physicians practice, and any other use required by law.

## **Treatment**

We will use and disclose your PHI to provide, coordinate, or manage your healthcare and related services. This includes the coordination or management of your healthcare with a third party. Such as a physician you have been referred to for diagnosis or treatment.

## **Payment**

Your PHI will be used, as needed, to obtain payment for your healthcare services. For example, obtaining approval for a procedure may require that your relevant PHI be disclosed to the health plan to obtain approval for the treatment.

## **Healthcare Operations**

We may use or disclose, as needed, your PHI, in order to support the business activities of your physicians practice. These activities include, but are not limited to, quality assessment activities, employee review activities, training of medical students, assistants, or residence licensing, and conducting or arranging for other business activities. In addition, we may use a sign in sheet at the registration desk where you will be asked to sign your name and indicate your physician. We may also call you by name in the waiting room when your physician is ready to see you. We may use or disclose your PHI, as necessary, to contact you to remind you of your appointment.

We may use or disclose your PHI in the following situations without your authorization. These situations include, as required by law, Public Health Issues, Communicable Diseases, Health Oversight Abuse or Neglect, Food and Drug Administration requirements, Legal Proceedings, Law Enforcement, Coroners, Funeral Directors, Organ Donation, Criminal Activity, Military Activity and National Security, and Workers Compensation. Under the law, we must make disclosures to you when required by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to investigate or determine our compliance with the requirements of Section 164.500.

## **Other Permitted and Required Uses and Disclosures**

Will be made only with your consent, counsel, authorization or opportunity to object unless required by law.

You may revoke this authorization, at any time, in writing, except to the extent that your physician or the physicians practice has taken an action in reliance on the use or disclosure indicated in the authorization.

**Your Rights**

The following is a statement of your rights with respect to your PHI.

**You have the right to inspect and copy your PHI**

Under federal law, however, you may not inspect or copy the following records: psychotherapy notes, information compiled in reasonable anticipation of, or use in, a civil, criminal, or administration action or proceeding, and PHI that is subject to law that prohibits access to PHI.

**You have the right to request a restriction of your PHI**

This means that you may ask us not to use or disclose any part of your PHI for the purpose of treatment, payment or healthcare operations. You may also request that any part of your PHI not be disclosed to family members or friends who may be involved in your care or for notification purposes as described in this Notice of Privacy Practices. Your request must be in writing and state specific restrictions and to whom you would want the restrictions to apply. Your physician is not required to agree to a restriction that you may request. If the physician believes it is in your best interest to permit use and disclosure of your PHI, it will not be restricted. You then have the right to use another healthcare professional.

**You have the right to request to receive confidential communications from us by alternative means.**

You have the right to obtain a paper copy of this notice from us upon request, even if you have agreed to accept this notice alternatively i.e. electronically.

**You may have the right to have your physician amend your PHI**

If we deny your request for amendment, you have the right to file a statement of disagreement with us and we may prepare a rebuttal to your statement and will provide you with a copy of such rebuttal.

**You have the right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures we have made, if any, of your PHI**

We reserve the right to change the terms of this notice and will inform you of any changes. You then have the right to object or withdraw as provided in this notice.

**Complaints**

You may complain to us or to the Secretary of Health and Human Services if you believe your privacy rights have been violated by us. You may file a complaint with us by notifying our privacy contact of your complaint. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

**This notice was published and becomes effective on/or before January 1, 2018**

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of, and provide individuals with, this notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to PHI. If you have any objections to this form, please ask to speak with our HIPPA Compliance Officer in person or by phone at our main phone number.

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Signature below is only acknowledgement that you have received this Notice of Privacy Practices.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_