

HIPAA PRIVACY DOCUMENT

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Notice of Privacy Practices

The Department of Health and Human Services has established a "Privacy Rule" to insure that personal health care information is protected for privacy. The Privacy Rule was created in order to provide a standard for health care providers to obtain their patients' consent for uses and disclosures of health information about the patient in order to provide treatment, payment, or health care operations.

As our patient we respect the privacy of your personal medical records and we always take reasonable precautions to protect your privacy. When it is appropriate and necessary, we provide the minimum necessary information to only those we feel in need of your health care information about treatment, payment or health care operations, in order to provide health care that is in your best interest.

We support your full access to your personal medical records. We may have indirect treatment relationships with you (such as laboratories that only interact with physicians and dentists not patients), and may have to disclose personal health information for purpose of treatment, payment or health care operations. These entities are generally not required to obtain patient consent.

You may refuse to consent to the use or disclosure of your personal information, but this must be in writing. Under this law, we have the right to refuse to treat you should you choose to refuse to disclose your Personal Health Information (PHI). If you choose to give consent in this document, at some future time you may request all or part of your Personal Health Information (PHI). You may not revoke actions that have already been taken which relied on this or a previously signed consent.

If you have any objections to this form, please ask to speak with our HIPAA Compliance Officer.

You have the right to review our privacy notice, to request restrictions and revoke consent in writing after you have reviewed our privacy notice.

Print Name: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE NOTIFICATION FOR OUR PATIENTS

To Our Valued Patients:

The misuse of Personal Health Information (PHI) has been identified as a national problem causing patients inconvenience, aggravation, and financial problems. Our employees continually undergo training so that they may understand and comply with government rules and regulations regarding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) with particular emphasis on the "Privacy Rule". We strive to achieve the very highest standards of ethics and integrity in performing services for our patients.

It is our policy to properly determine appropriate use of Personal Health Information (PHI) in accordance with governmental rules, laws and regulations. We want to ensure that our practice never contributes in any way to the growing problem of improper disclosure of PHI. As part of this plan, we have implemented a Compliance Program that we believe will help us prevent any inappropriate use of Personal Health Information (PHI).

We also know that we are not perfect! Because of this fact, our policy is to listen to our employees and our patients without any thought of penalization if they feel that an event in any way compromises our policy of integrity. Furthermore, we welcome your input regarding any service problem so that we may remedy the situation promptly.

Thank you for being one of our highly valued patients.