

HIPPA NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

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.

Federal Law (the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)) requires that health care providers inform patients of their rights regarding how the provider may use and disclose your protected health information to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations and for other purposes that are permitted or required by law. This Privacy Notice describes our privacy practices that relate to your protected health information. It also describes your rights to access and control your protected health information in some cases. Your "protected health information" means any written and oral health information about you, including demographic data that can be used to identify you. This is health information that is created or received by your health care provider, and that relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition.

Your Health Record and Protected Health Information:

Each time you receive medical care from our practice, a record of your visit is created. This record typically includes, but is not limited to, information such as your name, age, address, a brief medical history, symptoms, any radiology test results, the treatment provided to you, treatment plans devised for your care, and notes on follow-up care to be performed. How your health care information may be used and what controls you may exercise over the use of your healthcare information is described in this Privacy Notice.

Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information:

Our Practice may use your protected health information for purposes of providing treatment, obtaining payment for treatment, and conducting health care operations. Your protected health information may be used or disclosed only for these purposes unless the practice has obtained your authorization or the use or disclosure is otherwise permitted by the HIPAA privacy regulations or state law. Disclosures of your protected health information for the purposes described in this Privacy Notice may be made in writing, orally, or by facsimile.

Treatment:

We may use and disclose your protected health information to provide, coordinate, or manage your health care and any related services. This includes the coordination or management of your health care with providers, nurses, technicians, radiology personnel, other practice staff involved in your care and/or a third party for treatment purposes. We may disclose protected health information to physicians who may be treating you or consulting with the practice with respect to your care. In some cases, we may also disclose your protected health information to people outside the facility who may be involved in your medical care while you are in the practice or after you leave the practice, such as other physicians, health care workers, family members, clergy or others we use to provide services that are part of your care.

Payment:

Your protected health information will be used, as needed, to obtain payment for the services that we provide. This may include certain communications to your health insurance company to get approval for the procedure that we have scheduled. We may disclose protected health information to your health insurance company to determine whether you are eligible for benefits or whether a particular service is covered under your health plan. In order to get payment for the services we provide to you, we may also need to disclose your protected health information to your health insurance company to demonstrate the medical necessity of the services or, as required by your insurance company, for utilization review.

Operation:

We may use or disclose your protected health information, as necessary, for our own health care operations to facilitate the function of the Facility and to provide quality care to all patients. Health care operations include such activities as: quality assessment and improvement activities, employee review activities, training programs including those in which students, trainees, or practitioners in health care learn under supervision, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities, review and auditing, including compliance reviews, medical reviews, legal services and maintaining compliance programs, and business management and general administrative activities.

Patient Name (please print)

Signature of Parent or Guardian (If applicable)

Patient Signature

Witness Signature