

Notice of Privacy Practices

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that medical practitioners provide all patients with a notice that describes how personal health information (PHI) may be used and disclosed as well as patient rights and medical provider duties regarding this information. Please review the following which is provided in compliance with HIPAA.

Treatment

Your personal health information will be used as necessary to provide optimal medical care. Information may be disclosed to other physicians, nurses, or members of the healthcare team.

Payment

Your personal health information may be disclosed in order to bill and receive payment from your insurance carrier, and is sometimes required in advance to pre-certify payment by insurers.

Business Operations

While committed to the highest possible level of privacy, there may be times when your PHI is disclosed to facilitate quality improvement initiatives, or for the purposes of general business operations including billing. Whenever possible, this information will be de-identified.

Appointment Reminders

Your PHI may be minimally disclosed when messages are left reminding you of upcoming appointments.

Release of information to Family or Friends

With your written or documented verbal permission, your personal health information may be shared with friends or family of your designation, including those who accompany you to appointments or assist in your care.

Legally Required uses and Disclosures

There are cases in which your PHI may be shared without your permission, including reportable diseases, reportable patterns of injury, abuse, or neglect, events such as births and deaths, reactions to medications, for audits, investigations, and licensure, for judicial proceedings, warrants, subpoenas, as well as to avert a serious threat to safety or health.

You Have the Following Rights:

- To request restrictions on certain uses and disclosures, which may or may not be granted
- To receive confidential communications
- To inspect and copy PHI, provided such inspection has not been deemed a danger to your health or the health of others
- To request the amending of PHI should you find it to be incomplete or in error

