



## HIPPA PATIENT PRIVACY AND RIGHTS NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (hereafter, “HIPAA”), you have certain rights regarding the use and disclosure of your protected health information (hereafter, “PHI”).

Effective Date:

### MY PLEDGE REGARDING HEALTH INFORMATION:

I understand that health information about you and your health care is personal. I am committed to protecting health information about you. I create a record of the care and services you receive from me. I need this record to provide you with quality care and to comply with certain legal requirements. This notice applies to all of the records of your care generated by this therapy practice. This notice will tell you about the ways in which I may use and disclose health information about you. I also describe your rights to the health information I keep about you and describe certain obligations I have regarding the use and disclosure of your health information. I am required by law to:

- Make sure that PHI that identifies you is kept private.
- Give you this notice of my legal duties and privacy practices with respect to health information.
- Follow the terms of the notice that is currently in effect.
- I can change the terms of this Notice, and such changes will apply to all the information I have about you. The new Notice will be available upon request, in my office, and on my website.

### YOUR BASIC RIGHTS AND OUR RESPONSIBILITIES:

Patients of this practice have the right to obtain a copy of paper or electronic medical records, make corrections to the record, request confidential communication, request that we limit the information we share, obtain a list of entities with whom we have shared your information, get a copy of this notice, choose someone to act on your behalf, and file a complaint if you believe your privacy rights have been violated.

- Get a copy (paper or electronic) of your records. We will provide a copy of your records, and can charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee.
- Ask us to correct your medical record. You can ask us to correct health information about you that you think is incomplete or incorrect.
- Request preferred confidential communications. You can ask us to contact you by a preferred method ( ie. Home/office/cell) or ask to send mail to a specified address.
- Limit what we share or use. You can ask us not to share or use certain health information for our operations, treatment, or payment, although we are allowed to refuse your request if it would affect your care. If you pay for a service out of pocket in full, you can ask us not to share that with your health insurer, and we will comply unless a law requires us to share that information.
- Obtain a list of those with whom we have shared information. Upon request you are entitled to receive a list of the instances we have shared your health information, who we shared it with, and the reason for sharing for information for up to six years prior to the date you asked. We will include all the disclosures except those about treatment, payment and health care operations, and certain other disclosures, such as any you requested. There is no charge for a yearly request of this list, but there is a reasonable fee if such list is requested more than once in a 12-month period.
- Get a hard copy of this privacy notice. Upon request, you can receive a paper copy of this notice, if you have previously received this electronically.



- Choose someone to act on your behalf. If someone is your legal guardian, or has medical power of attorney for you, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your healthcare information. We will verify that any person has the authority to act on your behalf before taking any action.
- File a complaint if you think your rights are violated. If you feel your rights have been violated, please contact us. You can file a complaint with the US Dept of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights by visiting [www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/), calling 877.696.6775 or writing to: US Dept of H and H Services, Office of Civil Rights, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

## YOUR BASIC CHOICES AND OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

For certain health care information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. You can tell us whether to share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in your care. You can tell us whether to share information in a disaster relief situation. We will never share your information for the sale of the information or for marketing purposes unless we have express written permission. We can contact you in the case of fundraising, but you can tell us not to contact you again.

- Our use and disclosures of your health information to treat you, run our practice or bill for your services. We may use and share your health information to treat you and share with others who are treating you. Ex – a child being treated by multiple therapists and disciplines. We can use and share your health information to run our practice, improve your care and contact you when necessary. We can use and share your health information to bill and get payment from health plans or other entities. Ex- we give information to your insurer so they will pay for our services.
- Other ways we may share or use your health information. We are required (upon request) to share your information in other ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. These conditions are stringent and regulated by many laws before any information can be shared.
  - Help with safety and public health issues. We can share health information about you for certain situations such as preventing disease, helping with product recall, reporting adverse reactions to medications, reporting suspected abuse, neglect or domestic violence, preventing or mitigating a serious threat to someone's health or safety.
  - Research. We can use or share your information for health research.
  - Respond to organ and tissue donation requests. We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.
  - Work with a medical examiner or funeral director. We can share information upon request when an individual dies.
  - Comply with the law, respond to any legal action. We will share information about you if state or federal law requires it, including any audits conducted by the Dept. of Health and Human Services. We can share information about you in response to a court or administrative order or in response to a subpoena.
  - Comply with worker's compensation, law enforcement, or other government requests. Information about you can be shared for worker's comp claims, law enforcement purposes, health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law, and for special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services.
  - Blue Button protocol. Any patients with medical care managed by the Blue Button protocol can learn more about access to their health information at <http://www.hhs.gov/digitalstrategy/open-data/introducing-blue-button-plus.html>



#### SUMMARY OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information. We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information. We will give you a hard copy of this notice and follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice. We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing that we are able to. You may also change your mind at any time and let us know in writing if you do. Additional information is available at: [www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html).

#### CHANGES TO THE TERMS IN THIS NOTICE

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, on our website and in our office.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF PATIENT PRIVACY AND NOTICE

I have read and understand this practice's **Notice of Patient Information Practices**. I understand that the company may use or disclose my personal health information for the purposes of carrying out treatment, obtaining payment, evaluating the quality of services provided and any administrative operations related to treatment or payment. I understand that I have the right to restrict how my personal health information is used and disclosed for treatment, payment, and administrative operations if I notify the company. I also understand that the Company will consider requests for restrictions on a case-by-case basis but does not have to agree to requests for restrictions.

I hereby consent to the use and disclosure of my personal health information for purposes as noted in the Company's **Notice of Patient Information Practices**. In doing so, I hereby release RIO Works, PLLC from any and all legal liability that may arise from the release of such information. I agree that a copy of this authorization may be used in place of the original.

I understand that I retain the right to revoke this consent by notifying the Company in writing at any time except for when that action has already been taken. It shall be effective only long enough to answer the purpose for which it is given, and no further confidential information will be released without the execution of an additional written authorization.

Patient and Parent/Guardian's Printed Name if Patient is under 18

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Signature