

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

The Healthcare Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPPA”) is a federal program, which requires that all medical records and other individually identifiable health information used or disclosed by us in any form, whether electronically, on paper, or orally, are kept properly confidential. This act gives you, the patient, significant new rights to understand and control how your health information is used. “HIPPA” provides penalties for covered entities that misuse personal health information.

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information and to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to protected health information.

As required by HIPPA, we have prepared this explanation of how we are required to maintain the privacy of your health information and how we may u se and disclose your health information.

We may use and disclose your medical records only for each of the following purposes: testament, payment, health care operations.

* **Treatment** means providing, coordinating, or managing health care and related services by one or more health care providers. An example of this would include a physical examination.
* **Payment** means such activities as obtaining reimbursement for services, confirming coverage, billing or collection activities, and utilization review. An example of this would be sending a bill for our visit to your insurance company for payment.
* **Health care operations** include the business aspects of running our practice, such as conducting quality assessment and improvement activities, auditing functions, cost-management analysis, and customer service. An example of this would be an internal quality assessment review.

I understand that I may request in writing that you restrict how my private information is used or disclosed to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations. I also understand that your are not required to agree with my requested restrictions, but if you do agree then you are bound to abide by such restrictions.

Patient Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Patient:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_

I have attempted to obtain the patient’s signature in Acknowledgment of this notice of Privacy Practices, but was unable to do so as documented below:

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Initials:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Reason:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_