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HIPAA NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

Health Information Covered By This Notice

Personal health information or health information is information we create or receive that identifies you and relates your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition; the provision of health care to you; or the past, present or future payment for health care furnished to you.

Our Pledge Regarding Health Information

We understand that health information about you is personal. We are committed to protecting the privacy of your health information by complying with all applicable federal and state privacy and confidentiality laws. We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your health information and to provide you with this Notice about the ways in which we may use and disclose health information about you, our legal obligations and privacy practices and your privacy rights.

How We May Use and Disclose Health Information About You

The following categories describe different ways that we use and disclose health information. For each category of uses or disclosures, we explain what we mean and give an example. Not every use of disclosure in a category will be listed; however, all of the ways we are permitted to use and disclose information under federal law will fall within one of the categories. Except in certain limited cases such as emergencies, we are required to obtain your written consent prior to releasing your medical records to another party.

Treatment

We may use health information about you to provide you with health treatment or services. We may disclose health information about you to physicians, nurses, technicians, medical students or other personnel who are involved in taking care of you. This facility may share health information about you for care coordination, such as prescriptions, lab work and x-rays. We also may disclose health information about you to a specialist who is consulted about your treatment or care. It is also our practice to provide information about the care and treatment we provide to you referring physician of record so that he or she has appropriate information for providing future care to you.

Payment

We may use and disclose health information about you in order to obtain payment for services. For example, we may provide your health plan with information about services you received so your health plan will pay us or reimburse you for the clinic visit. We may also tell your health plan about a treatment you are going to receive to obtain prior approval or to determine whether your health plan will cover the treatment