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## **NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

This Notice describes how Health Information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully. The Privacy of your Health Information is important to us.

## **OUR LEGAL DUTY**

We are required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your health information. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in the Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect immediately, and will remain in effect until we replace it.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law. We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our Notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we make the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change the Notice and make the new Notice available upon request.

You may request a copy of our Notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for <u>additional</u> copies of this Notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of the Notice.

## **USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION**

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment, and healthcare operation. For example:

<u>Treatment:</u> We may use or disclose your health information to a physician or other health care provider providing treatment to you.

Payment: We may use or disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide to you.

<u>Healthcare Operations</u>: We may use or disclose your health information in connection with our healthcare operations. Healthcare operations include quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the competence or qualifications of healthcare professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities.

<u>To Your Family and Friends:</u> We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the Patient Rights section of this Notice. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend or other person to the extent necessary to help with you healthcare or with payment for your healthcare, but only if you agree that we may do so.

Persons Involved in Care: We may use or disclose health information to notify, or assist in the notification of (including identifying or locating) a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of you location, your general condition, or death. If you are present, then prior to use or disclosure of your health information, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to such uses or disclosures. In the event of your incapacity or emergency circumstances, we will disclose health information based on determination using our professional judgment disclosing only health information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your health care. We will also use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences o your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays or other similar forms of health information.

<u>Marketing Health-Related Services:</u> We will not use your health information for marketing communications without your written authorization.

Required by Law: We may use or disclose your health information when we are required to do so by law.