

Privacy Notice



In compliance with "HIPAA" (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) Effective 04-14-03

This notice describes how medical information about you or your dependents may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review carefully:

Your protected health information (ie: Individual, identifiable information ,such as name, home address, phone/fax numbers, e-mail address, photo, social security number, demographic data) may be used or disclosed by us in one or more of the following respects:

- To other healthcare providers (ie: oral surgeon, orthodontist, endodontist, etc.) in connection with our rendering treatment to you or your dependents (ie: to determine results of surgery, extractions etc.)
- To third party payors or spouses (ie: insurance companies, employers with direct reimbursement, administrators of flexible spending accounts, etc.) to obtain payment of your account (i.e. to determine benefits, dates of payments, etc.)
- To certifying, licensing and accrediting bodies (i.e. state dental boards, etc.) in connection with obtaining certification, licensure, or accreditation.
- Internally, to all staff members who have any role in your treatment.
- To other patients and third parties who may see or overhear incidental disclosures about your treatment, scheduling, etc.
- To your family and close friends involved in your treatment.
- We may contact you to provide appointment reminders or information about treatment alternatives or other health-related benefits and services that may be of interest to you.

Any other uses or disclosures of your protected health information will be made only after obtaining your written authorization, which you may have the right to revoke.

Under the new privacy rules, you have the right to:

- Request restrictions on the use and disclosure of our protected health information.
- Request confidential communication of your protected health information.
- Inspect and obtain copies of your protected health information through asking our office.
- Amend or modify your protected health information in certain circumstances.
- Receive an accounting of certain disclosures made by us of your protected health information.
- You may, without risk or retaliation, file a complaint as to any violation by us of your privacy rights with us (by submitting inquiries to our Privacy Contact Person at our office address) or the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services (which may be filed withing 180 days of the violation.)

We have the following duties under the privacy rules:

- By law, to maintain the privacy of protected health information and to provide you with this notice setting forth our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to such information.
- To abide by the terms of our **Privacy Notice** that is currently in effect.
- To advise you of our right to change the terms of this **Privacy Notice** and to make new notice provisions effective for all protected health information maintained by us and that if we do so, we will provide you with a copy of the revised **Privacy Notice**.

Please note that we are not obligated to:

- Honor any request by you to restrict the use or disclosure of your protected health information.
- Amend your protected health information if, for example, it is accurate and complete.
- Provide an atmosphere that is totally free of the possibility that your protected health information may be incidentally overheard by other patients and/or third parties.

This privacy notice is effective as of the date of your signature. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please ask for our Privacy Contact person or direct your questions to this person at our office address. Thank you.

I hereby acknowledge that I have reviewed a copy of this privacy notice.

Signature of Patient / Guardian

Date