

## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

This notice describes how health information about you or your child 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. We understand that your health information is personal, and we are committed to protecting it. This Notice describes how we may use and disclose your protected health information to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations and for other purposes that are permitted or required by law. It also describes your rights to access and control your protected health information. Protected health information is information about you, including demographic information, that may identify you and that relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition and related health care services.

## **OUR LEGAL DUTY**

We are required by law to: maintain the privacy of your protected health information; give you this Notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to that information; and abide by the terms of our Notice that is currently in effect. This notice was last revised on 11/06/2018.

# USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment and health care operations.

For example:

**Treatment:** We may use or disclose your health information to a physician or other healthcare provider providing treatment to you.

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

**Healthcare Operations:** We may use and 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.

Your Authorization: In addition to our use of your health information for treatment, payment or healthcare operations, you may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose, If you give us authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this notice.

**To Your Family and Friends:** We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the patient rights sections of this notice. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend or other person to the extent necessary to help, with your written consent.

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 your 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 your health information to the person(s) responsible for your healthcare. We will also use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of health-related information.

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

**Abuse or Neglect:** We may disclose health information to the appropriate government authority about a patient whom we believe is a victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence.

Law Enforcement and National Security: We may disclose your health information to a law enforcement official for law enforcement purposes, such as to identify or locate a suspect, material witness or missing person or to alert law enforcement of a crime. We may disclose your health information to the military (domestic or foreign) about its members or veterans, for national security and protective services for the President or other heads of state, to the government for security clearance reviews, and to jail or prison about its inmates.

**Appointment Reminders:** We may use or disclose your health information to provide you with appointment reminders by postcard, letter, phone call, voice message, text or email.

#### PATIENT RIGHTS

You have the following rights with respect to certain health information that we have about you. To exercise any of these rights, you must submit a written request to our Contact Officer listed below.

Access: You may request to access and review a copy or your health information. We may deny your request under certain circumstances. You will receive written notice of a denial and can appeal it. We will provide a copy of your health information in a format you request if it is readily producible. If not readily producible, we will provide it in a hard copy format or other format that is mutually agreeable. If your health information is included in an Electronic Health Record, you have the right to obtain a copy of it in an electronic format and to direct us to send it to the person or entity you designate in an electronic format. We may charge a reasonable fee to cover our cost to provide you with copies of your health information.

**Disclosure Accounting:** You have the right to receive a list of instances in which we or our business associates disclosed your health information for the six (6) years prior to the date that the accounting is requested, except for disclosures to carry out treatment, payment, healthcare operations (and certain other exceptions as provided by HIPAA). The first accounting we provide in any 12-month period will be without charge to you. We may charge a reasonable fee to cover the cost for each subsequent request for an accounting within the same 12-month period. We will notify you in advance of this fee and you may choose to modify or withdraw your request at that time.

**Restrictions:** You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. We may not (and are not required to) agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in an emergency).

Alternative Means of Communication: You have the right to request that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. You must make your request in writing. Your request must specify the alternative means or location, and provide satisfactory explanation for how payment will be handled under the alternative means or location you request.

**Amendment:** If you believe that your health information is incorrect or incomplete, you may request that we amend it. We may deny your request under certain circumstances. You will receive written notice of a denial and can file a statement of disagreement that will be included with your health information that you believe is incorrect or incomplete.

**Right to a Paper Copy of this Notice:** You have the right to a paper copy of this Notice. You may ask us to give you a paper copy of this Notice at any time (even if you have agreed to receive the Notice electronically). To obtain a paper copy, please ask the Contact Officer.

# QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

If you want more information about our privacy practices or have questions or concerns, please contact us. If you have any complaints about your privacy rights or how your health information has been used or disclosed, you may file a complaint with us by contacting our Privacy Officer listed below.

You may also file a written complaint with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights. We will not retaliate against you in any way if you choose to file a complaint.

**Contact Officer:** Flora Lee

**Telephone:** (516) 622-6630

Address: 636A Wantagh Ave Levittown, NY 11756