

Business Associates: We may contract with outside individuals and organizations that perform business services for us, such as billing, management consultants, accreditation organizations, quality assurance reviewers, accountants or attorneys. In certain circumstances, we may need to share your information with business associates so they can perform a service on our behalf. We will limit the disclosure of information to business associates to the amount of information that is the minimum necessary for the business associates to perform services for us. In addition, we will have a written contract in place with business associates requiring them to protect the privacy of your information.

As Required by Law: We will disclose NPI when required to do so by federal, state or local law.

Public Health Activities/Risks: We may disclose NPI to public health authorities that are authorized by law to collect information for the purpose of:

- Reporting child abuse or neglect;
- Preventing or controlling disease, injury or disability;
- Notifying a person regarding potential exposure to a communicable disease;
- Notifying a person regarding the potential risk for spreading or contracting a disease or condition;
- Reporting reactions to drugs or problems with products or devices;
- Notifying individuals if a product or device we may be using has been recalled;
- Notifying appropriate government agencies and authorities regarding the potential abuse or neglect of a patient (including domestic violence); and
- Notifying your employer under limited circumstances related primarily to workplace injury or illness or medical surveillance.

Health Care Oversight Activities: We may disclose NPI to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law. Oversight activities can include: investigations, inspections, audits, surveys, licensure and disciplinary actions; civil administrative, and criminal procedures or actions; or other activities necessary for the government to monitor compliance with civil rights laws and the health care system in general.

Lawsuits and Disputes: We may use and disclose NPI in response to a court or administrative order, if you are involved in a lawsuit or similar proceeding. We also may disclose your NPI in response to a discovery request, subpoena, or other lawful process by another party involved in the dispute, but only if we have made an effort to inform you of the request or to obtain a court order protecting the information the party has requested.

Law Enforcement: We may disclose NPI if asked to do so by a law enforcement official as part of law enforcement activities; in investigations of criminal conduct at this practice or of victims of crime; in emergency situations to report a crime (including the location or victim(s) of the crime, or the description, identity or location of the perpetrator); or when required to do so by law.

Serious Threats to Health or Safety: We may use and disclose your NPI when necessary to reduce or prevent a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of another individual or the public. Under these circumstances, we will only make disclosures to a person or organization able to help prevent the threat.

Military: We may use and disclose NPI if you are a member of United States or foreign military forces (including veterans) and if required by the appropriate military command authorities.

Protective Services for the President, National Security and Intelligence Activities: We may use and disclose NPI to federal officials for intelligence and national security activities authorized by law. We also may disclose your NPI to federal officials in order to protect the President, other officials or foreign heads of state, or to conduct investigations.

Worker's Compensation: We may release NPI for worker's compensation or similar programs.

VI. What uses and disclosures of NPI require your authorization?

Individuals Involved in Your Care or Payment for Your Care: We may release NPI to a friend or family member identified by you, that is helping you pay for your treatment or who assists in taking care of you.

V. What are your rights governing the information that we collect, use and maintain on you?

The Right to Inspect and Copy: You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of your NPI that we maintain and have in our possession, including treatment records and billing records. If you request copies, we will charge you a fee for the costs