

Notice of Policies and Practices to Protect the Privacy of Your Health Information

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW PSYCHOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION.

PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES YOUR RIGHTS TO PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA.)

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact Dr. Jason Hankee or Dr. Aaron Whiteman at (317) 762-8084

I. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information under Federal or Indiana law.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of this notice.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us in writing we can. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information see: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html.

II. YOUR RIGHTS:

You may receive a copy of this privacy notice

- You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

You may request confidential communications

- You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address.
- We will say “yes” to all reasonable requests.

You may ask us to limit what we use or share

- You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations. We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say “no” if it would affect your care.
- If you pay for a service or health care item out-of-pocket in full, you can ask us not to share that information for the purpose of payment or our operations with your health insurer. We will say “yes” unless a law requires us to share that information.

You may choose someone to act for you

- If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information.
- We will take reasonable steps to insure the person has this authority.

You may obtain an electronic or paper copy of your medical record

- You can ask to see or obtain an electronic or paper copy of your medical record and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this.
- We will provide a copy or a summary of your health information, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.

You may request a correction of your medical record

- You can ask us to correct health information about you that you think is incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this.
- We may say “no” to your request, but we will tell you why in writing within 60 days.

You may obtain a list of those with whom we shared information

- You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we have shared your health information for six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why.
- We will include all the disclosures except for those about treatment, payment, health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We will provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

You may file a complaint if you feel your rights are violated

- You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us using the information on page 1.
- You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/.
- We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

III. CHOICES YOU MAY MAKE ABOUT SHARING CERTAIN HEALTH INFORMATION

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. For the situations below, please tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

Situations when you have both the right and choice to tell us your choice about what we share:

- Sharing information with your family, close friends, or others involved in your care
- Sharing information in a disaster relief situation
- Including your information in a hospital directory

(If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.)

Situations when we never share your information unless you give us written permission:

- Marketing purposes
- Sale of your information
- Most sharing of psychotherapy notes

Fundraising:

- We may contact you for fundraising efforts, but you can tell us not to contact you again.

III. HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE HEALTH INFORMATION

We typically use or share your health information in the following ways.

Treat you

- We can use your health information and share it with other professionals who are treating you. (Example: A doctor treating you for an injury asks another doctor about your overall health condition.)

Run our organization

- We can use and share your health information to run our practice, improve your care, and contact you when necessary. (Example: We use health information about you to manage your treatment and services.)

Bill for your services

- We can use and share your health information to bill and get payment from health plans or other entities. (Example: We give information about you to your health insurance plan so it will pay for your services.)

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research.

- We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes. For more information see: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html.

We can share health information about you for certain situations that help with public health and safety issues such as:

- Preventing disease
- Helping with product recalls
- Reporting adverse reactions to medications
- Reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence
- Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety

Do research

- We can use or share your information for health research.

Comply with the law

- We will share information about you only as required by state or federal laws, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we are complying with federal privacy law.

Respond to organ and tissue donation requests

- We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.

Work with a medical examiner or funeral director

- We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.

We can use or share health information to address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests about you:

- For workers' compensation claims
- For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
- With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law

- For special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

- We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Changes to the Terms of this Notice

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, in our office, and on our website.

This notice is effective as of February 27, 2017

Jason Hankee is the privacy official for any inquiries regarding the information in this Notice. His email address is jhankee@continuummhwa.com and his phone number is (317) 762-8084.

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