

the release of information. If you are unable to agree or object to such disclosure, we may disclose such information as necessary if we determine that it is in your best interest based on our professional judgment. If a young adult age eighteen (18) requests that his or her information not be released to a parent or guardian, we must comply with this request in compliance with state law. For minor children living in divided households, both parents (mother and father) have access to the PHI unless their parental rights have been terminated. Payment of services is addressed in your Final Divorce Decree; however, we obtain payment from the parent who brings the child in for treatment. We will provide you a statement to send to the other parent for your reimbursement.

v) Disaster Relief: If applicable, we may use or disclose your PHI to an authorized public or private entity to assist in disaster relief efforts and to coordinate uses and disclosures to family or other individuals involved in your care.

2. YOUR RIGHTS. The following is a statement of your rights regarding PHI we gather about you:

A) Copy of this Notice: You have the right to a copy of this notice including a paper copy.

B) Inspect and Copy PHI: You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of PHI about you maintained by our Practice to include dental and billing records. You must submit a written request and indicate whether you prefer a paper or electronic copy. According to state and federal law, we may charge you a reasonable fee to copy your records. Our Practice does not transmit unsecured PHI via email. However, if you prefer this information emailed to you with encryption or security measures, we will comply with your request and will verify your email address. We suggest sending our Practice an email and we will reply with the attachment. (Note: Under federal law, you may not inspect or copy psychotherapy notes; information compiled in reasonable anticipation of, or use in, a civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding. Please contact the Privacy Officer for more details).

C) Amendment: You have the right to have your provider amend your PHI about you in a designated record set. Please consult with the Privacy Officer. We may deny this request and you may respond with a statement. We may include a rebuttal statement in your record. Reasons we may deny amending such information, but not limited to these reasons, is if we did not create the information, or if the individual who created the information is no longer available to make the amendment or it is not part of the information maintained at our Practice.

D) Restrictions: You have the right to request a restriction of your PHI. If you paid out-of-pocket for a service or item, you have the right to request that information not be disclosed to a health plan for purposes of payment or health care operations and we are required to honor that request. You may request in writing to our Privacy Officer not to use or disclose any part of your PHI for the purposes of treatment, payment or health care operations such as to family members or friends involved in your care or for notification purposes as described in this Notice of Privacy Practices. However, your provider is not required to agree to this restriction. You may discuss restrictions with the Privacy Officer.

E) Confidential Communications: You have the right to request to receive confidential communications from our Practice by alternative means or at an alternative location. For example, you may prefer our Practice to use your mobile telephone or email rather than a residential line. Please make this request in writing to the Privacy Officer. Our staff will not ask personal questions regarding your request.

F) Disclosures: You have the right to request an accounting of disclosures of your PHI including those made through a Business Associate as set forth in CFR 45 § 164.528. The HITECH Act removed the accounting of disclosures exception to PHI to carry out treatment, payment and healthcare operations if such disclosures are made through the EHR. To request an accounting, you must submit your request in writing to the Privacy Officer.

G) Breach Notification: According to the HITECH Act, you have the right to be notified following a breach of unsecured PHI that affects you. "Unsecured" is information that is not secured through the use of technology or methodology identified by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to render the PHI unusable, unreadable and undecipherable to unauthorized users. Breach notification applies to our Business Associates who are obligated to notify our Practice if a breach of unsecured PHI occurs that affects you.

H) Fundraising: If PHI is used for fund raising which is considered "health care operations," basic requirements must be satisfied to include notice to the individual and a process for individuals to opt-out. If the individual consents, only specific parts of PHI may be used for fund raising. Note: Your PHI will not be used in this manner at our Practice.

3. Complaints: You have the right to file a complaint if you believe your privacy rights or that of another individuals' have been violated. You may contact our Privacy Officer and your issue will be addressed. You may also file a complaint with the Secretary of Health and Human Services at: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Civil Rights, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20201. Your complaint must be filed in writing, either on paper or electronically, by mail, fax, or e-mail; name the covered entity or business associate involved and describe the acts or omissions you believe violated the requirements of the Privacy, Security, or Breach Notification Rules; and be filed within 180 days of when you knew that the act or omission complained of occurred. You may visit the Office of Civil Rights website at [www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa/](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa/) for more information.

If you have any questions, would like additional information or want to report a problem regarding the handling of your PHI, you may contact the Privacy Officer at:

Gary L. White, D.D.S.  
1075 Graysville Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37421  
Phone: 423.892.2919

You will not be penalized for filing a complaint.