## **NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED, HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION, YOUR RIGHTS CONCERNING YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION, AND OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO PROJECT YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

State and Federal laws require us to maintain the privacy of your health information and to inform you about our privacy practices by providing you this Notice. We are required to abide by the terms of this Notice of Privacy Practices. This Notice will take effect on May 1, 2014 and will remain in effect until it is amended or replaced by us.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices provided law permits the changes. Before we make a significant change, this Notice will be amended to reflect the changes and we will make the new Notice available upon request. We reserve the right to make any changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of the Notice effective for all health information maintained, created and/or received by us before the date the changes were made.

You may request a copy of our Privacy Notice at any time by contacting our Privacy Officer, Jordan Rowley. Information on contacting us may be found at the end of this Notice.

## We will keep your health information confidential, using it only for the following purposes:

Treatment: While we are providing you with health care services, we may share your protected health information (PHI) including electronic protected health information (ePHI) with other health care providers, business associates and their subcontractors, or individuals who are involved in your treatment, billing, administrative support, or data analysis. These business associates and subcontractors through signed contracts are required by Federal law to protect your health information. We have established "minimum" necessary" or "need to know" standards that limit various staff members' access to your health information according to their primary job functions. Everyone on our staff is required to sign a confidentiality agreement.

**Payment:** We may use and disclose your health information to seek payment for services we provide to you. This disclosure involves our business office staff and may include insurance organizations, collections, or other third parties that may be responsible for costs, such as family members.

Disclosure: We may disclose and/or share PHI including electronic disclosures with other <u>health care professionals</u> who provide treatment and/or service to you. These professionals will have a privacy and confidentiality policy like this one. Health information about you may also be disclosed to your family, friends, and/or other persons <u>you choose</u> to involve in your care, only if you agree that we may do so. If an individual is deceased we may disclose PHI to a family member or individual involved in care or payment prior to death. Uses and disclosures not described in this notice will be made only with your signed authorization.

Right to an Accounting of Disclosures: You have the right to request an "accounting of disclosures" of your (PHI) if the disclosure was made for purposes other than providing services, payment, and or business operations. In light of the increasing use of Electronic Medical Record technology (EMR), the HITECH act allows you the right to request a copy of your health information in electronic form if we store your information electronically. Disclosures can be made available for a period of 6 years prior to your request and for electronic health information 3 years prior to the date on which the accounting is requested. If for some reason we are unable to produce an electronic copy, a readable hard copy will be provided. A written request must be submitted to our Privacy Officer in order to receive a copy of this list.

Right to Request Restriction of PHI: If you pay out of pocket and in full for your treatment, you can instruct us not to share information about your treatment with your health plan; if the request is not required by law. Effective March 26, 2013, the Omnibus Rule restricts provider's refusal of an individual's request not to disclose PHI.

**Non-Routine Disclosures:** You have the right to receive a list of non-routine disclosures we have made of your healthcare information. You can request non-routine disclosures going back 6 years starting on April 14, 2003.

Emergencies: We may use or disclose your health information to notify or assist in the notification of a family member or anyone responsible for your care, in case of an emergency involving your care, your location, your general condition, or death. If at all