

38. PRIVACY NOTICE POLICY

POLICY

This policy describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information.

SCOPE

Uses and Disclosures of Health Information

With your consent, we may use health information about you for treatment (such as sending your medical record information to a specialist physician as part of a referral), to obtain payment for treatment (such as sending billing information to a health insurance plan), for administrative purposes, and to evaluate the quality of care that you receive (such as comparing patient data to improve treatment methods).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

We may use or disclose identifiable health information about you without your authorization for several other reasons. Subject to certain requirements, we may give out health information without your authorization for public health purposes, abuse or neglect reporting, auditing purposes, research studies, funeral arrangements and organ donation, workers' compensation purposes, and emergencies. We provide information when otherwise required by law, such as for law enforcement in specific circumstances. In any other situation, we will ask for your written authorization before using or disclosing any identifiable health information about you. If you choose to sign an authorization to disclose information, you can later revoke that authorization to stop any future uses and disclosures.

We may change our policies at any time. Before we make a significant change in our policies, we will change our notice and post the new notice in the waiting area, in each examination room, and on our web site. You can also request a copy of our notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, contact the person listed below.

Individual Rights

In most cases, you have the right to look at or get a copy of health information about you that we use to make decisions about you. Copies of health information records will be provided in the format as requested by

you if the records are “readily reproducible” in that format. You can request either electronic or paper copies, we will charge you according to County Policy. You also have the right to receive a list of instances where we have disclosed health information about you for reasons other than treatment, payment, or related administrative purposes. If you believe that information in your record is incorrect or if important information is missing, you have the right to request that we correct the existing information or add the missing information.

You have the right to request that your health information be communicated to you in a confidential manner such as sending mail to an address other than your home. If this notice was sent to you electronically, you may obtain a paper copy of the notice.

You may request in writing that we do not use or disclose your information for treatment, payment, or administrative purposes or to persons involved in your care except when specifically authorized by you, when required by law, or in emergency circumstances. We will consider your request but are not legally required to accept it.

Breach Notification

In the event of unauthorized access, use and/or disclosure of your protected health information breach notification will be carried out in compliance with all federal or state notification laws. Upon determination that breach notification is required, the notice shall be made without unreasonable delay and in no case later than 60 calendar days after the discovery of the breach.

Complaints

If you are concerned that we have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your records, you may contact the person listed below. You may also send a written complaint to the Scott County Board of Supervisors. The person listed below can provide you with the appropriate address upon request. Under no circumstance will you be retaliated against for filing a complaint.

Our Legal Duty

We are required by law to protect the privacy of your information, provide this notice about our information practices, and follow the information practices that are described in this notice.

If you have any questions or complaints, please contact:

Privacy Compliance Officer: Risk Manager
Address: 600 West 4th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801
Phone: (563) 326 - 8293