



12409 W. Indian School Rd., Bldg E  
Avondale, AZ 85392  
(623) 536-5353 phone  
(623) 536-5829 fax

## **HIPAA COMPLIANCE – NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

*This Notice describes how your medical information may be used and disclosed and how you can access this information.*

***Please review this Notice carefully.***

We understand and believe that the information about you and your health care are both important and very confidential. We are completely committed to protecting health information about you. Additionally, the law requires us to protect the privacy of your health and personal information and to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices, with respect to said information. This notice outlines our legal obligations regarding your health information. Please read it carefully and feel free to ask questions if you have any.

The law requires us to:

1. Keep your medical information private and protected.
2. Give you the Notice of our legal duties and privacy practices regarding your health information.
3. Follow the terms of this current Notice.

### **Use and Disclosure of Health Information About You:**

The following categories describe different ways that we use and disclose health information. Not every use of disclosure is listed. However, all of the ways that law permits us to use and disclose information will fall into one of the following categories. We will not use or disclose your health information for any purpose other than described below, without your written consent.

**For Treatment** – We may use your health information to provide you with health treatments and services. We may disclose medical information about you to doctors, nurses, technicians, medical students, or any other people who are involved in your treatment. These individuals may work directly in our offices, in a hospital if you are hospitalized, in a laboratory, in a pharmacy or may be any health care provider to whom we refer your consultation or treatment. We may also disclose health information about you to any entity assisting in a disaster relief effort so that your family members can be notified about your condition, status and location.

**For Payment** – Your protected health information may be used for obtaining payment for your health care services. This may include activities that your health insurance carrier undertakes prior to their approval or Pays for the healthcare services we recommend for you such as: making a determination of eligibility or coverage for insurance benefits, reviewing services provided to you for medical necessity and undertaking utilization review activities.

**Healthcare Operations** – We may use or disclose, as needed, your protected information in order to support the business activities of your physician's practice. These activities include, but are not limited to, quality assessment activities. For example, we may disclose your protected information to medical school students that see patients in our office. In addition, we may use a sign in sheet at the registration desk where you will be asked to sign your name and indicate your physician. We may also call you by name in the waiting room when your physician is ready to see you. We may use or disclose your protected health information, as necessary, to contact you to remind you of your appointment.

**Communication with Family and Friends** – We will disclose your health information to your family members and friends if you are in our facility and conscious and you allow such disclosure or it is reasonable to assume from the circumstances that you allow such disclosure. For example, if you allow a family member or friend to accompany you to your appointment and to the exam room with you then it is reasonable to assume that you are allowing such disclosure about your protected healthcare. If you are not in our office/facility or in incapacitated, our health care practitioners will exercise professional judgment to determine whether a disclosure to your family, personal representative, or other persons responsible for your care is in your best interest. The practitioner will only disclose information directly relevant to the recipient's involvement in your health care or payment of health care.

**Notification** – We may also disclose your health information to notify or assist in notifying a family member, your personal representative, or other persons responsible for your care about your location, general condition or death.

**Public Health Agencies** – We may disclose your health information for public health activities such as assisting public health authorities in preventing or tracking disease or outbreaks and maintaining customer records of medical supplies in the event of product recall. We are required to report initial diagnosis of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and communicable diseases to state public health agencies.

**Health, Safety and Law Enforcement** – We are required to disclose information to law enforcement if we suspect child abuse or neglect. In the exercise of our professional judgment, we may report information in the case of adult abuse. Your health information may be disclosed to avert a serious threat to health and safety or any other person. We will disclose information if we are required to do so by law, such as pursuant to judicial or administrative subpoena. We may also be required to disclose information for specialized government functions such as protection of public officials or reporting to various branches of the armed services. Finally, we may disclose health information to assist law enforcement officials in their duties.

**Health Information** – We might send you general newsletters or other information that promotes your health as well as other helpful information regarding our facility.

**Other** – Health information may be disclosed to funeral directors or coroners to enable such persons to perform their duties. Your health information may also be used or disclosed for cadaver organ, eye or tissue donation purposes. Your health information may be used or disclosed in order to comply with laws and regulations related to Worker's Compensation. We will share your protected health information with third part business associates that perform various activities (e.g., billing) for the clinic. Whenever an arrangement between our office and a business associated involves the use or disclosure of your protected health information we will have a written contract that contains terms that will protect the privacy of your protected health information.

*Other uses and disclosures will be made only with your written authorization and you may revoke the authorization except to the extent we have taken action in reliance upon authorization.*

#### **Your Rights Regarding Your Health Information**

You have certain rights with respect to your health information. These rights are listed below. If you would like to exercise any of these rights or if you have questions regarding your rights, please contact: Director of Operations **Brad Hixon** 623-935-7788.

1. You have the right to request that we limit our uses and disclosures of your health information. We have the right to not agree to your request.
2. You have the right to request that we communicate with you through alternative means or locations, and we will respect any reasonable requests.
3. You have the right to review and obtain a copy of your health information with a written medical records release signed and dated. We have the right to charge you a fee for the cost of providing you with such copies.
4. You have the right to request that we amend your health information. We will review your request but not necessarily make the amendments you request.
5. You have the right to obtain an accounting of disclosures that we have made your health information except disclosure for treatment, payment, health care operations, disclosures authorized by you, and disclosures for certain government functions.
6. You have the right to revoke any authorization you made for the use or disclosure of your health information except to the extent we have already relied on the authorization. You have the right to receive a paper copy of this notice.

We are required by law to abide by the terms of this Notice of Privacy Practices. We have the right to change the terms of this notice at anytime. The new notice will be effective for all protected health information that we maintain at this time. We will communicate any changes by providing you with a new copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices the next time you receive treatment at our facility after any such change.

**Complaints** – You may make your complaints to us or to the Office of Civil Rights if you believe your privacy rights have been violated by us. You may file a complaint with us by notifying the Director of Operation at Sun Valley Medical Group. You may obtain the address of the OCR Regional Manager, Denver, CO, from our Director of Operations.

**Clinic Name and Phone Number**  
**Sun Valley Medical Group, 623-935-7788**

This notice was published and becomes effective on: **December 30, 2008**

**We are required by law to maintain the privacy of and provide individuals with this notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to protected health information. If you have any objections to this form, please ask to speak with our HIPPA Compliance Officer (Director of Operations) in person or by phone at Clinic phone number 623-935-7788.**



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## **Notice of Privacy Practice**

**Your name and signature on this sheet indicates that you have read a copy of the SUN VALLEY FAMILY PRACTICE Notice of Privacy Practices on the date indicated. If you have any questions regarding the information set forth in the SUN VALLEY FAMILY PRACTICE'S Notice of Privacy Practices, please do not hesitate to contact us at 623-536-5353**

**Name (Please Print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_