

Request Amendment. You have the right to request that we amend your medical information if you feel that it is incomplete or inaccurate. You must make this request in writing to our Privacy Officer stating exactly what information is incomplete or inaccurate and your reasoning that supports your request.

We are permitted to deny your request if it is not in writing and does not include a reason to support the request. We may also deny your request if:

- the information was not created by us, or the person who created it is no longer available to make the amendment;
- the information is not part of the record which you are permitted to inspect and copy;
- the information is not accurate and complete

Request Restrictions: You have the right to request a restriction or limitation of how we use or disclose health care operations. For example—you could request that we not disclose information about a prior treatment to a family member or friend who may be involved in your care or payment of care. Your request must be made in writing to our Privacy Officer.

We are not required to agree to your request if we feel it is in your best interest to use or disclose that information. However, if we do agree, we will comply with your request unless that information is needed for emergency treatment.

An Accounting of Disclosures: You have the right to require a list of the disclosures of your health information we have made outside of our practice that were not for treatment, payment, or health care operations. Your request must be made in writing and must state the time period for the requested information. You may not request information for any dates prior to April 14, 2003 (the compliance date for federal regulation) nor for a period of time greater than six years (our legal obligation to retain information.)

Your first request for a list of disclosures within a 12 month period will be free. If you request an additional list within 12 months of the first request, we may charge you a fee for the costs of providing the subsequent list. We will notify

you of such costs and afford you the opportunity to withdraw your request before any costs are incurred.

Request Confidential Communications: You have the right to request how we communicate with you to preserve your privacy. For example—you may request that we call you only at your work number, or by mail at a special address or postal box. Your request must be made in writing and must specify how or where we are to contact you. We will accommodate all reasonable requests.

File a complaint: If you believe we have violated your medical information privacy rights, you have the right to file a complaint with our privacy officer or directly to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

To file a complaint with our privacy officer, make it in writing within 180 days of the suspected violation. Provide as much detail as you can about the suspected violation and send it to: Privacy Officer, Gabrielle K. Keenum M.A., LPC, 12203 Quaker Ave, Suite 8, Lubbock, TX 79424. You should know there would be no retaliation for your filing a complaint.

Uses or Disclosures Not Covered: Uses or disclosures of your health information not covered by this notice or the laws that apply to us may only be made with your written authorization. You may revoke any such authorization in writing at any time and we will no longer disclose health information about you for the reasons stated in your written authorization. Disclosures made in reliance on the authorization prior to the revocation are not affected by the revocation.

For More Information: if you have questions or would like additional information, you may contact our Privacy Officer at 806-790-1327.

Notice of Privacy Practices

**Gabrielle K. Keenum, M.A.,
LPC, NCC
12203 Quaker Ave, Suite 8
Lubbock, TX 79424**

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully.

We are required by law to provide you with this notice that explains our privacy practices with regard to your medical information for treatment, payment, and or health care operations, as well as for other purposes that are permitted or required by law. You have certain rights regarding the privacy of your protected information and we also describe them in this notice

Ways in Which We May Use and Disclose Your Protected Health Information:

The following paragraphs describe different ways that we may use and disclose your protected health information. We have provided an example for each category, but these examples are not meant to be exhaustive. We assure you that all of the ways we are permitted to use and disclose your health information fall within one of these categories.

Treatment. We will use and disclose your protected health information to provide, coordinate, or manage /our health care and any related services. We will also disclose your health information to other physicians who may be treating you. Additionally, we may from time to time disclose your health care information to another physician who we have requested to be involved in your case. For example—we would disclose your health information to a specialist to whom we have referred you for a diagnosis to help in your treatment.

Payment. We will use and disclose your protected health information to obtain payment for the health care services we provide you. For example—we may include information with a bill to a third-party payer that identifies you, your diagnosis, procedures performed, and supplies used in rendering the service.

Health Care Operations. We will use and disclose your protected health information to support the business activities of our practice. For example—we may use medical information about you to review and evaluate our treatment and services or to evaluate our staffs performance while caring for you. In addition, we may disclose your health information to third-party business associates who perform billing, consulting, or transcription services for our practice.

Other ways we May Use and Disclose your Protected Health Information:

Appointment Reminders. We will use and disclose your protected health information to contact you as a reminder about scheduled appointment or treatments.

Treatment alternatives. We will use and disclose your protected health care information to tell you about or to recommend possible alternative treatments or options that may be of interest to you.

Others Involved in your Care. We will use and disclose your protected health information to a family member, a relative, a close friend or any other person you identify that is involved in your medical care or payment for care.

Research. We will use and disclose your protected health information to researchers provided the research as been approved by an institutional review board that has reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of your health information.

As required by Law. We will use and disclose your protected health information when required to by federal, state, or local law. You will be notified of any such disclosures.

To Avert a Serious Threat to Public Health or Safety. We will use and disclose your protected health information to a public health authority that is permitted to collect or receive the information for the purpose of controlling disease, injury or disability. If directed by that health authority, we will disclose your health information to a foreign government agency that is collaborating with the public health authority.

Workers Compensation. We will use and disclose your protected health information for worker's compensation or similar programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.

Inmates. We will use and disclose your protected health information to a correctional institution or law enforcement official if you are an inmate of that correctional facility or

under the custody of the law enforcement official. This information would be necessary for the institution to provide you health care; to protect the health and safety of others; or for the safety and security of the correctional institution.

Your Health Information Rights

Although your health record is the physical property of the health care practitioner or facility that compiled it, the information belongs to you. You have the right to:

A Paper Copy of this Notice. You have the right to receive a paper copy of this notice upon request. You may obtain a copy by asking the therapist at your next visit or by calling and asking us to mail you a copy.

Inspect and Copy. You have the right to inspect and copy the protected health information that we maintain about you in our designated record set for as long as we maintain that information. This designated record, includes your medical and billing records, as well as any other records we use for making decisions about you. Any psychotherapy notes that may have been included in records we received about you are not available for your inspection or copying, mailing, or other supplies used in fulfilling your request.

If you wish to inspect or copy your medical information, you must submit your request in writing to: Privacy Officer, Gabrielle K. Keenum, M.A., LPC, 12203 Quaker Avenue, Suite 8, Lubbock, Texas 79424. You may mail your request or bring it to our office. We will have 30 days to respond to your request for information that we maintain at our Practice site. If the information is stored off-site, we are allowed up to 60 days to respond, but must inform you of this delay.