

Fremont County Department of Public Health & Environment
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
Provider Notice of Privacy Practices

USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION: We use health information about you for treatment (diagnostic testing, prescriptions, immunizations, referrals, etc.) to obtain payment (submit claims and/or encounters to billing services) for administrative purposes (reporting, surveys, etc.) and to evaluate the quality of care that you receive. We may contact you to provide appointment reminders or information about treatment alternatives or other health related benefits and services that may be of interest to you. 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, for auditing purposes and for emergencies. We provide information when otherwise required by law, such as for law enforcement in specific circumstances. In any other situation, we will ask you 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 apply a change to 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 and in each exam room. You may also request a copy of our privacy practices by contacting the HIPAA Compliance Officer.

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS: You have the right, following a written request and agreed upon date and time, to look at, get a copy of or receive electronically protected health information about you that we use to make decisions about you. You also have the right to receive a list of instances where we have disclosed protected 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 in writing that we amend the existing information. You may request in writing that we restrict and/or not use or disclose your information for treatment, payment and administrative purposes 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 agree to it.

COMPLAINTS: If you are concerned that we have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access or amendment to your records, you may contact the HIPAA Compliance Officer. You may send a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights. The HIPAA Compliance Officer can provide you with the appropriate address upon request.

OUR LEGAL RIGHTS: 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.

164.520 Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information

(a.) Standard: notices of privacy practices.

(1) Right to notice: Except as provided by paragraph (a) (2) or (3) of this section, an individual has a right to adequate notice of the uses and disclosures of protected health information that may be made by the covered entity, and of the individual's rights and the covered entity's legal duties with respect to protected health information.

(2) Specific requirements for certain covered health care providers. A covered health care provider that has a direct treatment relationship with an individual must:

(I) Provide the notice no later than the date of the first service delivery, including service delivered electronically to such individual after the compliance date for the covered health care provider

(II) If the covered health care provider maintains a physical service delivery site:

(A) Have the notice available at the service delivery site for individuals to request to take with them, and

(B) Post the notice in a clear and prominent location where it is reasonable to expect individuals seeking service from the covered health care provider to be able to read the notice, and

(III) Whenever the notice is revised, make the notice available upon request on or after the effective date of the revision and promptly comply with the requirements of paragraph ©(2)(II) of this section, if applicable.