

HIPAA POLICY NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

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.

The Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a federal program that requires that all medical records and other individually identifiable health information used or disclosed by us in any form, whether electronically, on paper, or orally, are kept properly confidential. This Act gives you, the client, significant rights to understand and control how your health information is used. We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information and to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to protected health information. HIPAA provides penalties for covered entities that misuse personal health information.

As required by HIPAA, here is an explanation of how I am required to maintain the privacy of your health information and how I may use and disclose your health information.

Treatment means providing, coordinating, or managing health care and related services, by one or more health care providers. An example of this would include comprehensive intake assessment or treatment plan.

Payment means such activities as obtaining reimbursement for services, billing or collections activities, and utilization review. An example of this would be supplying a superbill for your reimbursement to your insurance company for payment.

Health care operations include the business aspects of running the practice, such as conducting quality assessment and improvement activities, auditing functions, cost-management analysis, and customer service. An example would be an internal quality assessment review.

I may create and distribute de-identified health information by removing all references to individually identifiable information.

I 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.

Any other uses and disclosures will be made only with your written authorization. You may revoke such authorization in writing and I am required to honor and abide by that written request.

You have the following rights with respect to your protected health information, which you can exercise by presenting a written request:

The right to request restrictions on certain uses and disclosures of protected health information, including those related to disclosure to family members, other relative, close personal friends, or any other person identified by you.

The right to inspect and copy your protected health information.
The right to amend your protected health information.
The right to obtain a paper copy of this notice from us upon request.

This notice is effective as of January 1, 2020 and I am required to abide by the terms of the Notice of Privacy Practices currently in effect. I reserve the right to change the terms of the notice of Privacy Practices and to make the new notice provisions effective for all protected health information that I maintain. You may request a written copy of a revised Notice of Privacy Practices from this office.

You have recourse if you feel that your privacy protections have been violated. You have the right to file written complaints with the Department of Health & Human Services and/or Office of Civil Rights about violations of the provisions of this notice or the policies and procedures of this office. The PAIR Center for Couples Counseling, PLLC will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

Please contact the following for more information:

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Office of Civil Rights
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
(202) 619-0257
Toll Free: 1-877-696-6775