

Destination Hope

817.366-3494

USES AND DISCLOSURES WITH NEITHER CONSENT NOR AUTHORIZATION

We may use or disclose PHI without your consent or authorization in the following circumstances:

- **Child Abuse:** If we have cause to believe that a child has been, or may be, abused, neglected, or sexually abused, we must make a report of such within 48 hours to the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, the Texas Youth Commission, or to any local or state law enforcement agency.
- **Adult and Domestic Abuse:** If we have cause to believe that an elderly or disabled person is in a state of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, we must immediately report such to the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services.
- **Health Oversight:** If a complaint is filed against us with the State Board of Examiners, the board has the authority to subpoena confidential mental health information from us relevant to that complaint.
- **Judicial or Administrative Proceedings:** If you are involved in a court proceeding and a request is made for information about your diagnosis and treatment and the records thereof, such information is privileged under state law, and we will not release information without written authorization from you or your personal or legally appointed representative, or a court order. The privilege does not apply when you are being evaluated for a third party or where the evaluation is court ordered. You will be informed in advance if this is the case.
- **Serious Threat to Health or Safety:** If we determine that there is a probability of imminent physical injury by you to yourself or others, or there is a probability of immediate mental or emotional injury to you, we may disclose relevant confidential mental health information to medical or law enforcement personnel.
- **Worker's Compensation:** If you file a worker's compensation claim, we may disclose records relating to your diagnosis and treatment to your employer's insurance carrier.

PATIENT RIGHTS

- **Right to Request Restrictions:** You have the right to request restrictions on certain uses and disclosures of protected health information about you. However, we are not required to agree to a restriction you request.
- **Right to Receive Confidential Communications by Alternative Means and at Alternative Locations:** You have the right to request and receive confidential communications of PHI by alternative means and at alternative locations.
- **Right to Inspect and Copy:** You have the right to inspect or obtain a copy (or both) of PHI in our mental health and billing records used to make decisions about you for as long as the PHI is maintained in the record. We may deny your access to PHI under certain circumstances, but in some cases you may have this decision reviewed. On your request, we will discuss with you the details of the request and denial process.
- **Right to Amend:** You have the right to request an amendment of PHI for as long as the PHI is maintained in the record. We may deny your request. On your request, we will discuss with you the details of the amendment process.
- **Right to an Accounting:** You generally have the right to receive an accounting of disclosures of PHI for which you have neither provided consent nor authorization (as described previously). On your request, we will discuss with you the details of the accounting process.

QUESTIONS OR COMPLAINTS

For more information about our privacy policy or if you have questions or concerns, please contact us. 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 complain to us. You may also send a written complaint to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will provide you with that address to file your complaint upon request.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

I, _____, have received a copy of this office's Notice of Privacy Practices.

Signature

Date

For office use only

We attempted to obtain written acknowledgement of receipt of Notice of Privacy Practices, but acknowledgement could not be obtained because:

- Individual refused to sign
 - Communications barriers prohibited obtaining the acknowledgement
 - An emergency situation prevented us from obtaining acknowledgement
 - Other (Specify below)
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