



845 N. MICHIGAN AVE., SUITE 955W, CHICAGO, IL 60611 | (312) 654-1220 | watertowerdental.com

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES AND HIPAA COMMUNICATION FORM

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

We care about our patients' privacy and strive to protect the confidentiality of your medical information at this practice and not disclose such information without your consent or written authorization unless otherwise required by federal or state privacy laws. Federal legislation requires that we issue this official notice of our privacy practices. You have the right to the confidentiality of your medical information, and this practice is required by law to maintain the privacy of that protected health information. This practice is required to abide by the terms of the Notice of Privacy Practices currently in effect, and to provide notice of its legal duties and privacy practices with respect to protected health information. If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the Privacy Officer for this practice.

Mr. Tony Moree
Attorney at Law
325 N. Milwaukee Ave.
2nd Floor
Libertyville, IL 60048
(P) 847-996-0496
(F) 847-756-7512

Patient Communication: Our policy is to keep patient health information confidential and protect the privacy of our patients while ensuring our patients are kept well informed of their appointments and other information. As a service to our patients, we will communicate appointment reminders and other information via text message, email or via phone. Limited information will be left when leaving a voice message. Medical information will not be shared when leaving a voice message. Please inform our team if you would prefer we use an additional communication preference for appointment reminders or other information related to your care. Please provide us with information with whom we can communicate with concerning your care.

Who Will Follow This Notice: Any health care professional authorized to enter information into your medical record, all employees, staff and other personnel at this practice who may need access to your information must abide by this Notice. All subsidiaries, business associates (e.g. a billing service), sites and locations of WaterTower Dental LTD. may share medical information with each other for treatment, payment purposes or health care operations described in this Notice. Except where treatment is involved, only the minimum necessary information needed to accomplish the task will be shared.

How We May Use and Disclose Medical Information About You: The following categories describe different ways that we may use and disclose medical information without your specific consent or authorization. Examples are provided for each category of uses or disclosures. Not all possible uses or disclosures are listed.

For Treatment: We may use medical information about you to provide you with dental treatment or services. Example: In treating you for a specific condition we may need to know if you have allergies that could influence which medications we prescribe for the treatment process.

For Payment: We may use and disclose medical information about you so that the treatment and services you receive from us may be billed and

payment may be collected from you, an insurance company or a third party. Example: We may need to send your protected health information, such as your name, address, office visit date, and codes identifying your diagnosis and treatment to your insurance company for payment.

For Health Care Operations: We may use and disclose medical information about you for health care operations to assure that you receive quality care. Example: We may use medical information to review our treatment and services and evaluate the performance of our staff in caring for you.

Other Uses or Disclosures That Can Be Made Without Consent or Authorization:

- As required during an investigation by law enforcement agencies
- To avert a serious threat to your health or safety
- As required by military command authorities for their medical records
- To workers' compensation or similar programs for processing of claims
- In response to a legal proceeding
- To a coroner or medical examiner for identification of a body
- As required by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- Other healthcare providers' treatment activities
- Other covered entities' and providers' payment activities
- Other covered entities' healthcare operations activities (to the extent permitted under HIPAA)
- Uses and disclosures required by law
- Uses and disclosures in domestic violence or neglect situations
- Health oversight activities
- Other public health activities

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.

Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information Requiring Your Written Authorization:

Other uses and disclosures of medical information not covered by this Notice or the laws that apply to us will be made only with your written authorization. If you give us authorization to use or disclose medical information about you, you may revoke that authorization, in writing, at any time. If you revoke your authorization, we will thereafter no longer use or disclose medical information about you for the reasons covered by your written authorization. You understand that we are unable to take back any disclosures we have already made with your authorization, and we are required to retain our records of the care we have provided you.

Your individual Rights Regarding Your Medical Information

Complaints: If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Privacy Officer at this practice or with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. All complaints must be submitted in writing. You will not be penalized or discriminated against for filing a complaint.

Right to Request Restrictions: You have the right to request a restriction or limitation on the medical information we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment or health care operations or to someone who is involved in your care or the payment of your care. We are not required to agree to your request. If we do agree, we will comply with your request unless the information is needed to provide you with emergency treatment. To request restrictions, you must submit your request in writing to the Privacy Officer at this practice. In your request, you must tell us what information you want to limit.

Right to Request Confidential Communications: You have the right to request how we should send communications to you about medical matters, and where you would like those communications sent. To request confidential communications, you must make your request to the Privacy Officer at this practice. We will not ask you the reason for your request. We will accommodate all reasonable requests. Your request must specify how or where you wish to be contacted. We reserve the right to deny a request if it imposes an unreasonable burden on the practice.

Right to Inspect and Copy: You have the right to inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about your care. Usually this includes medical and billing records but does not include information compiled for use in a civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, and protected health information to which access is prohibited by law. To inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about you, you must submit your request in writing to the Privacy Officer at this practice. If you request a copy of the information, we reserve the right to charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing or other supplies associated with your request. We may deny your request to inspect and copy in certain very limited circumstances. If you are denied access to medical information, you may request that the denial be reviewed. Another licensed health care professional chosen by this practice will review your request and the denial. The person conducting the review will not be the person who denied your request. We will comply with the outcome of the review.

Right to Amend: If you feel that the medical information we have about you is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask us to amend the information.

You have the right to request an amendment for as long as the information is kept. To request an amendment, your request must be made in writing and submitted to the Privacy Officer at this practice. In addition, you must provide a reason that supports your request. We may deny your request for an amendment if it is not in writing or does not include a reason to support the request. In addition, we may deny your request if the information was not created by us, is not part of the medical information kept at this practice, is not part of the information which you would be permitted to inspect and copy, or which we deem to be accurate and complete. If we deny your request for amendment, you have the right to file a statement of disagreement with us. We may prepare a rebuttal to your statement and will provide you with a copy of any such rebuttal. Statements of disagreement and any corresponding rebuttals will be kept on file and sent out with any future authorized requests for information pertaining to the appropriate portion of your record.

Right to an Accounting of Non-Standard Disclosures: You have the right to request a list of the disclosures we made of medical information about you. To request this list, you must submit your request to the Privacy Officer at this practice. Your request must indicate the time period for which you want to receive a list of disclosures that is no longer than six years and may not include dates before April 14, 2003. Your request should indicate in what form you want the list (example: on paper or electronically). The first list you request within a 12-month period will be free. For additional lists, we reserve the right to charge you for the cost of providing the list.

Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice: You have the right to a paper copy of this notice at any time. Even if you have agreed to receive this notice electronically, you are still entitled to a paper copy. To obtain a paper copy of the current notice, please request one in writing from the Privacy Officer at this practice.

Changes to This Notice: We reserve the right to change this notice. We reserve the right to make the revised or changed Notice effective for medical information we already have about you as well as any information we receive in the future. We will post a copy of the current Notice, with the effective date in the upper right corner of the first page.

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I understand that, under the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPPA") I have certain rights to privacy regarding my protected health information. I understand that this information can and will be used to:

- Conduct, plan and direct my treatment and follow-up among the multiple healthcare providers who may be involved in that treatment directly and indirectly.
- Obtain payment from third-party payers.
- Conduct normal health care operations such as quality assessments and physician certifications.

I have received, read and understand your *Notice of Privacy Practices* containing a more complete description of the uses and disclosures of my health information. I understand that the Practice has the right to change this Notice at any time. I may obtain a current copy by contacting the office at (312) 654-1220 or by visiting watertowerdental.com. I understand that this practice has the right to change its *Notice of Privacy Practices* from time to time and that I may contact this organization at any time at the address above to obtain a current copy of the *Notice of Privacy Practices*. I understand that I may request in writing that you restrict how my private information is used or disclosed to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations. I also understand you are not required to agree to my requested restrictions, but if you do agree then you are bound to abide by such restrictions.

Patient Name: _____ Relationship to Patient: _____

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Date _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

I attempted to obtain the patient's signature in acknowledgment on this Notice of Privacy Practice Acknowledgement but was unable to do so as documented below:

Signature of Dental Staff: _____ Print Name: _____

Reason: _____ Date: _____