## **Notice of Privacy Practices**

**IV Nurses** 

Last updated: August 21, 2024

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.

## I. Who We Are

A. This Notice of Privacy Practices ("Notice") describes the privacy practices of IV Nurses and its affiliates, including certain affiliated professional entities.

## II. Our Privacy Obligations

A. We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your health information ("Protected Health Information" or "PHI") and to provide you with this Notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your PHI. We are also obligated to notify you following a Breach of unsecured PHI. When we use or disclose your PHI, we are required to abide by the terms of this Notice (or other notice in effect at the time of the use or disclosure).

## III. Permissible Uses and Disclosures Without Your Written Authorization

- A. In certain situations, which we describe in Section IV below, we must obtain your written authorization in order to use and/or disclose your PHI. We do not need any type of authorization, however, for the following uses and disclosures:
- B. Uses and Disclosures For Treatment, Payment and Health Care Operations. We may use and disclose PHI, but not your "Highly Confidential Information" (defined in Section IV.B below), in order to treat you, obtain payment for services provided to you, and conduct our "Healthcare Operations" as detailed below:
  - 1. Treatment. We may use and disclose your PHI to provide treatment, for example, to diagnose and treat your injury or illness. We may also disclose PHI to other health care providers involved in your treatment.
  - 2. Payment. In most cases, we may use and disclose your PHI to obtain payment for services that we provide to you.
  - 3. Healthcare Operations. We may use and disclose your PHI for our healthcare operations which include internal administration and planning and various activities that improve the quality and cost effectiveness of the care that we deliver to you. For example, we may use PHI to evaluate the quality and competence of our physicians and other health care practitioners. We may also disclose PHI in order to resolve any complaints you may have.
  - 4. We may also disclose PHI to your other healthcare providers when such PHI is required for them to treat you, receive payment for services they render to you, or conduct certain healthcare operations, such as quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the quality and competence of healthcare professionals, or for health care fraud and abuse detection or compliance.
- C. Disclosure to Relatives, Close Friends and Other Caregivers. We may use or disclose your PHI to a family member, other relative, a close personal friend, or any other person identified by you when you are present for, or otherwise available prior to the disclosure, if we (1) obtain

- your agreement; (2) provide you with the opportunity to object to the disclosure and you do not object; or (3) reasonably infer that you do not object to the disclosure.
- D. If you are not present, or the opportunity to agree or object to a use or disclosure cannot practically be provided because of your incapacity or an emergency circumstance, we may exercise our professional judgment to determine whether a disclosure is in your best interests. If we disclose information to a family member, other relative or a close personal friend, we would disclose only information that we believe is directly relevant to the person's involvement with your health care or payment related to your health care. We may also disclose your PHI in order to notify (or assist in notifying) such persons of your location, general condition, or death.
- E. Public Health Activities. We may disclose your PHI for the following public health activities: (1) to report health information to public health authorities for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury or disability; (2) to report child abuse and neglect to public health authorities or other government authorities authorized by law to receive such reports; (3) to report information about products and services under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration; (4) to alert a person who may have been exposed to a communicable disease or may otherwise be at risk of contracting or spreading a disease or condition; and (5) to report information to your employer as required under laws addressing work-related illnesses and injuries or workplace medical surveillance.
- F. Victims of Abuse, Neglect or Domestic Violence. If we reasonably believe you are a victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence, we may disclose your PHI to a governmental authority, including a social service or protective services agency, authorized by law to receive reports of such abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.
- G. Health Oversight Activities. We may disclose your PHI to a health oversight agency that oversees the health care system and is charged with responsibility for ensuring compliance with the rules of government health programs, such as Medicare or Medicaid.
- H. Judicial and Administrative Proceedings. We may disclose your PHI in the course of a judicial or administrative proceeding in response to a legal order or other lawful process.
- I. Law Enforcement Officers. We may disclose your PHI to the police or other law enforcement officials as required or permitted by law or in compliance with a court order or a grand jury or administrative subpoena.
- J. Decedents. We may disclose your PHI to a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director as authorized by law.
- K. Research. We may use or disclose your PHI without your consent or authorization if an Institutional Review Board or Privacy Board approves a waiver of authorization for disclosure.
- L. Health or Safety. We may use or disclose your PHI to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to a person's or the public's health or safety.
- M. Specialized Government Functions. We may use and disclose your PHI to units of the government with special functions, such as the U.S. military or the U.S. Department of State under certain circumstances.
- N. Workers' Compensation. We may disclose your PHI as authorized by and to the extent necessary to comply with state law relating to workers' compensation or other similar programs.
- O. As Required By Law. We may use and disclose your PHI when required to do so by any other law not already referred to in the preceding categories.
- IV. Uses and Disclosures Requiring Your Written Authorization

- A. Use or Disclosure with Your Authorization. We must obtain your written authorization for uses and disclosures of PHI for marketing purposes and disclosures that constitute the sale of PHI. Additionally, other uses and disclosures of PHI not described in this Notice will be made only when you give us your written permission on an authorization form ("Your Authorization"). For instance, you will need to complete and sign an authorization form before we can send your PHI to your life insurance company or to the attorney representing the other party in a lawsuit in which you are involved.
- B. Uses and Disclosures of Your Highly Confidential Information. Federal and state law requires special privacy protections for certain highly confidential information about you ("Highly Confidential Information"). This Highly Confidential Information may include the subset of your PHI that: (1) is about mental health and developmental disabilities services; (2) is about alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment and referral; (3) is about HIV/AIDS testing, diagnosis or treatment; (4) is about sexually-transmitted disease(s); (5) is about genetic testing; (6) is about child abuse and neglect; (7) is about domestic abuse of an adult with a disability; or (8) is about sexual assault. In order for us to disclose your Highly Confidential Information for a purpose other than those permitted by law, we must have Your Authorization.
- C. Revocation of Your Authorization. You may withdraw (revoke) your Authorization, or any written authorization, regarding your Highly Confidential Information (except to the extent that we have taken action in reliance upon it) by delivering a written statement to the Privacy Officer identified below. A form of written revocation is available upon request from the Privacy Officer.
- V. Your Rights Regarding Your Protected Health Information
  - A. For Further Information and Complaints. If you would like more information about your privacy rights, if you are concerned that we have violated your privacy rights, or if you disagree with a decision that we made about access to your PHI, you may contact our Compliance and Privacy Officer. Also, you may make a complaint by calling us at 321-848-5699. You may also file written complaints with the Director, Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Upon request, the Compliance and Privacy Officer will provide you with the correct address for the Director. We will not retaliate against you if you file a complaint with us or the Director.
  - B. Right to Request Additional Restrictions. You have the right to request a restriction on the uses and disclosures of your PHI (1) for treatment, payment and health care operations purposes, and (2) to individuals (such as a family member, other relative, close personal friend or any other person identified by you) involved in your care or with payment related to your care. For example, you have the right to request that we not disclose your PHI to a health plan for payment or healthcare operations purposes, if that PHI pertains solely to a health care item or service for which we have been involved and which has been paid out of pocket in full. Unless otherwise required by law, we are required to comply with your request for this type of restriction. For all other requests for restrictions on use and disclosures of your PHI, we are not required to agree to your request, but will attempt to accommodate reasonable requests when appropriate. If you wish to request additional restrictions, please obtain a request form from and return the form to our Compliance and Privacy Officer. We will subsequently respond to your request with a written response.
  - C. Right to Receive Confidential Communications. You may request, and we will accommodate, any reasonable written request for you to receive your PHI by alternative means of communication or at alternative locations.

- D. Right to Inspect and Copy Your Health Information. You may request access to your medical record file and billing records maintained by us in order to inspect and request copies of the records. Under limited circumstances, we may deny you access to a portion of your records. If you would like to access your records, please request a Release of Information Form from the Privacy Officer and submit the completed form to <a href="mailto:contact@ivnurses.org">contact@ivnurses.org</a>. If you request copies, we will charge you a cost-based fee that includes (1) labor for copying the PHI; (2) supplies for creating the paper copy or electronic media if you request an electronic copy on portable media; (3) our postage costs, if you request that we mail the copies to you; and (4) if you agree in advance, the cost of preparing an explanation or summary of the PHI.
- E. Right to Request to Amend Your Records. You have the right to request that we amend PHI maintained in your medical record file or billing records. If you desire to amend your records, please obtain an Amendment Request Form from the Compliance and Privacy Officer and submit the completed form to <a href="mailto:contact@ivnurses.org">contact@ivnurses.org</a>. We will comply with your request unless we believe that the information that would be amended is accurate and complete or other special circumstances apply.
- F. Right to Receive An Accounting of Disclosures. Upon request, you may obtain an accounting of certain disclosures of your PHI made by us during any period of time prior to the date of your request provided such period does not exceed six years. If you request an accounting more than once during a twelve (12) month period, we will charge you a reasonable fee for additional accountings of disclosure, and will inform you in advance of any fee to provide you with an opportunity to withdraw or modify the request.
- G. Right to Receive A Copy of this Notice. Upon request, you may obtain a copy of this Notice, either by email or in paper format. Please submit your request to:
  - 1. IV Nurses

ATTN: Privacy Officer

Email: contact@ivnurses.org

- VI. Effective Date and Duration of This Notice
  - A. Effective Date. This Notice is effective on August 21, 2024
- VII. Right to Change Terms of this Notice. We may change the terms of this Notice at any time. If we change this Notice, we may make the new notice terms effective for all Protected Health Information that we maintain, including any information created or received prior to issuing the new notice. If we change this Notice, we will post the new notice on our website. You also may obtain any new notice by contact@ivnurses.org
- VIII. Contact Information
  - A. If you have any questions or comments about this Privacy Policy and our privacy practices, please message us through the Platform or contact us at:

Privacy Officer

contact@ivnurses.org
ATTN: Privacy Officer

612-492-1967