

# NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

**THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION.**

**PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY. THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT TO US.**

## OUR LEGAL DUTY

Federal and state law required us to maintain the privacy of your health information. That law also requires us to give you this notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices we describe in this notice while it is in effect. This notice takes effect April 4, 2003, and will remain in effect until we replace it.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this notice at any time, provided such applicable law permits the changes. We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we made the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this notice and make the new notice available upon request.

You may request a copy of our notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this notice.

## USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment, and health care operations. For example:

**Treatment:** We may use your health information for treatment or disclose it to a dentist, physician or other health care provider providing treatment to you.

**Payment:** We may use and disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide to you. We may also disclose your health information to another health care provider or entity that is subject to the federal Privacy Rules for its payment activities.

**Health Care Operations:** We may use and disclose your health information for our health care operations. Health care operations include quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the competence or qualifications of health care professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities. We may disclose your health information to another health care provider or organization that is subject to the federal privacy rules and that has a relationship with you to support some of their health care operations. We may disclose your information to help these organizations conduct quality assessment and improvement activities, review the competence or qualifications of health care professionals, or detect or prevent health care fraud and abuse.

**On Your Authorization:** You may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any uses or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this notice.

**To Your Family and Friends:** We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend or other person to the extent necessary to help with your health care or with payment for your health care. Before we disclose your health information to these people, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to our use or disclosure. If you are not present, or in the event of your incapacity or an emergency, we will disclose your medical information based on our professional judgment or whether the disclosure would be in your best interest. We may use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of health information. We may use or disclose information about you to notify or assist in notifying a person involved in your care, of your location and general condition.

**Appointment Reminders:** We may use or disclose your health information to provide you with appointment reminders (such as voicemail messages, postcards, or letters.)

**Disaster Relief:** We may use or disclose your health information to a public or private entity authorized by law or by its charter to assist in disaster relief efforts.

**Public Benefit:** We may use or disclose your medical information as authorized by law for the following purposes deemed to be in the public interest or benefit:

- as required by law;
- for public health activities, including disease and vital statistic reporting, child abuse reporting, FDA oversight, and to employers regarding work-related injury;
- to report adult abuse, neglect, or domestic violence;
- to health oversight agencies;
- in response to court and administrative orders and other lawful processes;
- to law enforcement officials pursuant to subpoenas and other lawful processes, concerning crime victims, suspicious deaths, crimes on our premises, reporting crimes in emergencies, and for purposes of identifying or location a suspect or other person;
- to coroners, medical examiners, and funeral directors;
- to an organ procurement organization;
- to avert a serious threat to health or safety;
- in connection with certain research activities;
- to the military and to federal officials for lawful intelligence, counterintelligence, and national security activities;
- to correctional institutions regarding inmates; and
- as authorized by state worker's compensation laws.

## PATIENT RIGHTS

**Access:** You have the right to look at or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies. We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so. You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. You may request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this notice. If you request copies, we will charge you a reasonable cost-base fee that may include labor, copying costs, and postage. If you request an alternative format, we will charge a cost-based fee for providing your health information in that format. If you prefer, we may-but are not required to-prepare a summary or an explanation of your health information for a fee. Contact us using the information listed at the end of this notice for more information about fees.

**Disclosure Accounting:** You have the right to receive a list of instances in which we or our business associates disclosed your health information over the last 6 years (but not before April 4, 2003). That list will not include disclosure for treatment, payment, health care operations, as authorized by you, and for certain other activities. If you request this accounting more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests. Contact us using the information listed at the end of this notice for more information about fees.

**Restriction:** You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. We are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in an emergency). Any agreement we may make to a request for additional restrictions must be in writing signed by a person authorized to make such an agreement on your behalf. Your request is not binding unless our agreement is in writing.

**Alternative Communication:** You have the right to request that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. You must make your request in writing. You must specify in your request the alternative means or location, and provide satisfactory explanation how you will handle payment under the alternative means or location you request.

**Amendment:** You have the right to request that we amend your health information. Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why we should amend the information. We may deny your request under certain circumstances.

## QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

In you want more information about our privacy practices or have questions or concerns, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this notice.

If you believe that:

- we have violated your privacy rights,
- we made a decision about access to your health information incorrectly,
- our response to a request you made to amend or restrict the use or disclosure of your health information was incorrect, or
- we should communicate with you by alternative means or at alternative locations,

you may contact us using the information listed below. You may also submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will provide you with the address to file your complaint with the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request. We support your right to the privacy of your health information. We will not retaliate in any way in you choose to file a complaint with us or with the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**Riverwalk Dentistry**  
**735 N Water St, Ste 826**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53202**  
**Phone: 414.271.1770**  
**Email: [Support@Riverwalkdentistry.com](mailto:Support@Riverwalkdentistry.com)**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF PRIVACY PRACTICES NOTICE

Riverwalk Dentistry  
735 N Water Street, Suite 826  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

## SECTION A: The Patient.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION B: Acknowledgement of Receipt of Privacy Practices Notice.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I have received  
a Notice of Privacy Practices from the above named practice.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Representative's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION C: Good Faith Effort to Obtain Acknowledgement of Receipt.

Describe your good faith effort to obtain the individual's signature on this form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the reason why the individual would not sign this form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## SIGNATURE:

I attest the above information is correct.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## Wisconsin Consent

Purpose: This form is to obtain an individual's written permission under Wisconsin law for (a) our use of the individual's dental care records to carry out treatment, payment activities, and health care operations, and (b) our disclosure of the individual's dental care records to carry out treatment, payment activities, and health care operations.

### SECTION A: Individual giving consent

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient Name (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### TO THE INDIVIDUAL: Please read the following and complete the information requested.

Effect on Declining Consent: This consent is a condition of your treatment by us. If you decide not to sign this consent, we may decline to treat you.

Privacy Practices Notice: You have the right to read our Privacy Practices Notice before you decide whether to sign this consent. Our Notice provides a description of our treatment, payment activities, and health care operations, of the uses and disclosures we may make of your protected health information, and of other important matters about your protected health information. A copy of our dental office's Notice of Privacy Practices accompanies this consent. We encourage you to read it carefully and completely before signing this consent.

#### SECTION B: The uses and disclosures being authorized.

Our Use of Dental Health Information: By signing this form, you will consent to our use of your dental care records to carry out treatment, payment activities, and health care operations as set forth in our Privacy Practices Notice.

Persons Involved in Care: By signing this form, you will consent to our use of your dental care records to the following persons, including those involved in your care or payment for that care. Please list the person(s) you would like involved in your care or payment for that care.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

We may use professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person acting on your behalf to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of protected health information.

Our Disclosure of Medical Information: By signing this form, you will consent to our disclosure of your dental care records to carry out treatment, payment activities, and health care operations as set forth in our Privacy Practices Notice, and to our disclosure of your dental care records for disaster relief purposes as permitted by law.

#### SECTION C: Revocation.

Right to Revoke: This consent is effective until revoked by you. You may revoke this consent at any time by giving written notice of revocation to the Contact Office listed below. Revocation of this consent will not affect any action we took in reliance of this authorization before we received your written notice of revocation. We may decline to treat you or to continue treating you if you revoke this consent.

Contact Info: **Riverwalk Dentistry**  
**735 N Water St, Ste 826**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53202**  
**414.271.1770**

#### INDIVIDUAL'S SIGNATURE:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have had full opportunity to read and consider the contents of this consent. I understand that, by signing this form, I am confirming my written permission for the disclosure of my protected health information, as described in this form.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If this consent is signed by a personal representative/parent on behalf of the individual, complete the following;

Personal Representative's/ Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Individual: \_\_\_\_\_