

## PATIENT CONSENT FORM

The Department of Health and Human Services has established a "Privacy Rule" to help insure that personal health care information is protected for privacy. The Privacy Rule was also created in order to provide a standard for certain health care providers to obtain their patients' consent for uses and disclosures of health information about the patient to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations.

As our patient we want you to know that we respect the privacy of your personal medical records and will do all we can to assure and protect that privacy. We strive to always take reasonable precautions to protect your privacy. When it is appropriate and necessary, we provide the minimum necessary information to only those we feel are in need of your health care information and information about treatment, payment or health care operations in order to provide health care that is in your best interest.

We also want you to know that we support your full access to your personal medical records. We may have indirect treatment relationships with you (such as laboratories that only interact with physicians and not patients), and may have to disclose personal health information for purpose of treatment, payment or health care operations. These entities are most often not required to obtain patient consent.

You may refuse to consent to the use or disclosure of your personal health information, but this must be in writing. Under this law, we have the right to refuse to treat if you should choose to refuse to disclose your personal health information (PHI). If you choose to give consent in this document, at some future time you may request to refuse all or part of your PHI. You may not revoke actions that have already been taken which relied on this or a previously signed consent.

If you have any objections to this form, please ask to speak with our HIPAA Compliance Officer.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature and Date \_\_\_\_\_

**To our valued patients:**

The misuse of Personal Health Information (PHI) has been identified as a national problem causing patients inconvenience, aggravation, and money. We want you to know that all of our employees, our manager and doctor continually undergo training so that they may understand and comply with government rules and regulations regarding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) with particular emphasis on the "Privacy Rule." We strive to achieve the highest standards of ethics and integrity in performing services for our patients.

It is our policy to properly determine appropriate use of PHI in accordance with the governmental rules, laws and regulations. We want to ensure that our practice never contributes in any way to the growing problem of improper disclosure of PHI. As part of this plan, we have implemented a Compliance Program that we believe will help us prevent any inappropriate use of PHI.

We welcome your input regarding any problems so that we may remedy the situation promptly.

Thank you for being one of our highly valued patients.