

## How We Use or Disclose Your Medical Information

**For Treatment** - We will use medical information about you to provide you with treatment and services. We may share this information with members of our health care staff or with others involved in your care such as doctors, nurses, or health care facilities. For example, a nurse who is providing your care will report any changes in your condition to your doctor. We may also disclose your health information to a member of your family or other person who is involved in your care.

**For Payment** - We may use or disclose your medical information to bill and collect payment for the services we provided to you. For example, we may need to give your health insurance plan information about your diagnosis, treatment, and supplies used. We may also contact your insurance plan to confirm your coverage or to request prior approval for a planned treatment or service.

**Health Care Operations** - We may use or disclose your medical information for operational purposes. For example, we may use your medical information to evaluate our services, including the performance of our staff in caring for you. We may also use this information to learn how to continually improve the quality and effectiveness of the health care services that we provide to you.

Your name and address may be used to send out patient satisfaction surveys.

We may contact you either by telephone or by mail at your home or your office to remind you of an appointment that you have with us or any other matter related to the health care services we provide or payment for your health care services. We may leave messages for you. If you want us to contact you in a certain way or at a certain location, see the "Right to Receive Confidential Communications" in this notice.

**Business Associates** - There are some services that are provided for us by our business associates such as accountants, consultants, and attorneys. Whenever we share information with our business associates, we will have a written contract with them that requires that they protect the privacy of your medical information.

## Other Use and Disclosures of Your Medical Information

**Treatment Alternatives** - We may use and disclose medical information about you to contact you about other health care treatment that is available to you. If you do not want to receive these communications, please notify us in writing.

**Health Related Benefits and Services** - We may use and disclose medical information about you to contact you about other health care benefits or services that may interest you. If you do not want to receive these communications, please notify us in writing.

**Individuals Involved in Your Care** - We may disclose medical information about you to a family member, other relative, close friend, or any other person identified by you if they are involved in your care or payments related to your care. We may also use or disclose medical information about you to notify those persons of your location, general condition, or death. If there is a family member, other relative, or close friend to whom you do not want us to disclose medical information about you, please notify us in writing.

## Complaints

You have the right to complain to us and to the United Department of Health and Human Services if you believe we have violated your privacy rights. There is no risk in filing a complaint.

### To file a complaint, contact us by mail:

Administrator  
Millennium Physicians  
22710 Professional Dr.  
Kingwood, TX 77339

### To file a complaint with the HIPAA Privacy and Security Compliance office, send your complaint to:

Centralized Case Management Operations  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 509F HHH Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

### To file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, send your complaint to:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 509F, HHH Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
Toll-free number at (800) 368-1019

### Questions and Information

If you have any questions or want more information about this Notice of Privacy Practices, please contact:

Compliance Department  
Millennium Physicians  
22710 Professional Drive  
Kingwood, TX 77339

by phone with questions or with written requests for information as defined under the "Your Rights" section of this notice. Complaints or questions may be made by phone or in writing.

The revision date of this privacy notice is February 25, 2020.



Millennium Physicians

## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

**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.**

### Purpose of this Notice

This notice tells you about how we use and disclose your medical information. It tells you about your rights and our responsibilities to protect the privacy of your medical information. It also tells you how to complain to us, or the government, if you believe that we have violated any of your rights or any of our responsibilities.

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your medical information. We are also required to notify you following a breach of your unsecured medical information, such as when your medical information has been used, disclosed, or accessed in violation of this notice and Federal law. We must provide you with a copy of this notice and get your written acknowledgment of its receipt. We must follow the terms of this notice that are currently in effect.

We reserve the right to change the terms of this notice and will notify you of any changes. A copy of the revised notice will be available upon request or at our locations or on our website. Changes to this notice will apply to medical information we already have about you, as well as any new information.

This notice will be given to you on the date that you first receive medical products or treatment. In an emergency, we will give you the notice as soon as possible after the emergency treatment has been given.

## Use or Disclosures that are Required or Permitted by Law

**Disaster Relief** - We may use or disclose medical information about you to assist in disaster relief efforts. This will be done to notify family members or others of your location, general condition, or death in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

**Required by Law** - We may use or disclose medical information about you when we are required to do so by law.

**Communicable Diseases** - We may disclose your medical information to a person who may have been exposed to an infectious disease or who is at risk of spreading the disease or condition.

**Public Health Activities** - We may disclose medical information about you for public health activities to prevent or control disease.

**Victims of Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence** - We may disclose medical information about you to a government agency if we believe you are the victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.

**Health Oversight Activities** - We may disclose medical information about you to a health oversight agency.

**Legal Activities** - We may disclose medical information about you in response to a court proceeding. We may also disclose medical information about you in response to a subpoena or other legal process.

**Disclosures for Law Enforcement Purposes** - We may disclose information about you to law enforcement officials for law enforcement purposes:

- As required by law
- In response to a court order or other legal proceeding
- To identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person
- When information is requested about an actual or suspected victim of a crime
- To report a death as a result of possible criminal conduct
- About crimes that occur on our premises.
- To report a crime in emergency circumstances.

**Workers' Compensation** - We may disclose medical information about you to comply with workers' compensation laws that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illnesses.

**Public Health or Safety** - We may use or disclose medical information about you if we believe it is necessary to prevent a threat to the health or safety of a person or the general public.

**Military** - If you are a member of the Armed Forces, we may use and disclose medical information about you to your military command.

**National Security and Intelligence** - We may disclose medical information about you to authorized federal officials for national security and intelligence activities.  
**Security Clearance** - We may use medical information about you for a required security clearance.

**Inmates** - We may disclose medical information about you to a correctional institution or law enforcement official who has custody of you.

## Uses or Disclosures That Require Your Authorization

Other uses and disclosures will be made only with your written authorization. You may cancel an authorization at any time by notifying us in writing of your desire to cancel it. If you cancel an authorization, it will not have any effect on information that we have already disclosed. Examples of uses or disclosures that require your written authorization include the following:

- (1) most uses and disclosures of psychotherapy notes;
- (2) uses and disclosures for marketing purposes;
- (3) uses and disclosures that constitute the sale of your medical information.

## Your Rights

The information contained in your health or medical record is the physical property of Millennium Physicians. The information in it belongs to you. You have the following rights:

**Rights to Request Restrictions** - You have the right to ask us not to use or disclose your medical information for a particular reason related to treatment, payment, or our operations. You may ask that family members or other individuals not be informed of specific medical information. That request must be provided to us in writing. We do not have to agree to your request, unless the restriction relates to disclosure of your medical information relating to a specific item or service to your health plan for payment or health care operations, and you have already paid out-of-pocket, in full, for the specific item or service.. If we agree to your request, we must keep the agreement, except in the case of a medical emergency. Either you or Millennium Physicians can stop a restriction at any time.

**Right to Receive Confidential Communications** - You have the right to ask that we communicate with you in a certain manner or at a certain place. If you want to request confidential communications, the request must be made in writing. We must agree to your request if it is reasonable.

**Right to Inspect and Copy Your Medical Information** - You have the right to request to inspect and obtain a copy of your medical information. You must submit your request in writing. If you request a copy of the information or if you request that we provide you with a summary of the information, we may charge a fee for the costs of copying, summarizing, and/or mailing it to you.

If we agree to your request, we will tell you. We may deny your request under certain limited circumstances. If your request is denied, we will let you know in writing and you may be able to request a review of our denial.

**Right to Request Amendments to Your Medical Information** - You have the right to request that we correct your medical information. If you believe that any medical information in your record is incorrect or that important information is missing, you must submit your request for an amendment in writing to Millennium Physicians.

We do not have to agree to your request. If we deny your request, we will tell you why. You have the right to submit a statement disagreeing with our decision. We may deny your request if we determine that the information:

- Was not created by us
- Is not part of the medical information that we maintain
- Is in records that you are not allowed to inspect and copy
- Is already accurate or complete

**Right to an Accounting of Disclosures of Health Information** - You have the right to find out what disclosures of your medical information have been made. The list of disclosures is called an accounting. The accounting may be for up to six (6) years prior to the date on which you request the accounting but cannot include disclosures before April 14, 2003.

We are not required to include disclosures for treatment, payment, or health care operations or certain other exceptions. Request for an accounting of disclosures must be submitted in writing. You are entitled to one free accounting in any twelve (12) month period. We may charge you for the costs of providing additional accountings. If there will be a charge, we will notify you in advance.

**Right to Obtain a Copy of the Notice** - You have the right to request and get a paper copy of this notice and any revisions we make to the notice at any time.