OUTTEN CHIROPRACTIC

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NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

YOUR RIGHTS

Get an electronic or paper copy of your medical record
You can ask to see or get an electronic or paper copy of your medical record and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this. We will provide a copy or a summary of your health information, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.

Ask us to correct your medical record
You can ask us to correct health information about you that you think is incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this. We may say "no" to your request, but we'll tell you why in writing within 60 days.

Request confidential communications
You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address. We will say "yes" to all reasonable requests.

Ask us to limit what we use or share
You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations. We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say "no" if it would affect your care.

ONLY if you pay for a service or health care item out-of-pocket, in full, at the time of service, can we comply with your request not to share that information for the purpose of payment or our operations with your health insurer. (i.e. - comply with your request not to file your claims to your insurance company). Otherwise, we will say "yes" unless a law requires us to share that information.

Get a list of those with whom we've shared information
You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we've shared your health information for six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why. We will include all the disclosures except for those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We'll provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

Get a copy of this privacy notice
You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

Choose someone to act for you
If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information. We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated
You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us. You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

YOUR CHOICES

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share.
If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

In these cases, you have both the right and choice to tell us to:

- Share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in your care
- Share information in a disaster relief situation
- Contact you for fundraising efforts

If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

In these cases we *never* share your information unless you give us written permission:

- Marketing purposes
- Sale of your information

In the case of fundraising: We may contact you for fundraising efforts, but you can tell us not to contact you again.

OUR USES AND DISCLOSURES

How do we typically use or share your health information? We typically use or share your health information in the following ways.

Treat you
We can use your health information and share it with other professionals who are treating you. *Example: A doctor treating you for an injury asks another doctor about your overall health condition.*

Run our organization
We can use and share your health information to run our practice, improve your care, and contact you when necessary. *Example: We use health information about you to manage your treatment and services.* As a courtesy to our patients and to keep the continuity of your care, Dr. Outten will share your health information with his covering doctor when he is out of the office for continuing education or vacation.

Bill for your services
We can use and share your health information to bill and get payment from health plans or other entities. *Example: We give information about you to your health insurance plan so it will pay for your services.*

Open Adjusting
It is the practice of this office to provide chiropractic care in an "open-door" adjusting environment. Patients are within sight of one another and some ongoing routine details of care are discussed within earshot of other patients and staff. This environment is used for ongoing care and is NOT the environment used for taking patient histories, performing examinations or presenting reports of findings. These procedures are completed in a private, confidential setting. We are requesting this authorization of you due to various interpretations under federal law with respect to what is known as an "incidental disclosures" of health information. It is our view that the kinds of matters related in an "open adjusting" and "open-door" environment are incidental matters, in the event you or someone else would not agree with us we are providing this disclosure. The use of this format is intended to make your experience with our office more efficient and productive as well as to enhance your access to quality health care and health information. If you choose not to be adjusted in an "open-adjusting" or "open-door" environment other arrangements will be made for you.

Sign In Sheets
Covered entities, such as physician's offices, may use patient sign-in sheets or call out patient names in waiting rooms, so long as the information disclosed is appropriately limited. The HIPAA Privacy Rule explicitly permits the incidental disclosures that may result from this practice, for example, when other patients in a waiting room hear the identity of the person whose name is called, or see other patient names on a sign-in sheet. However, these incidental disclosures are permitted only when the covered entity has implemented reasonable safeguards and the minimum necessary standard, where appropriate. For example, the sign-in sheet may not display medical information that is not necessary for the purpose of signing in (e.g., the medical problem for which the patient is seeing the physician).

How else can we use or share your health information? We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes.

Help with public health and safety issues
We can share health information about you for certain situations such as preventing disease; helping with product recalls; reporting adverse reactions to medications; reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence; and, preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety.

Do research
We can use or share your information for health research.

Comply with the law
We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law.

Respond to organ and tissue donation requests
We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.

Work with a medical examiner or funeral director
We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.

Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests
We can use or share health information about you for workers' compensation claims, for law enforcement purposes, or with a law enforcement official. We can also use or share health information about you with health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law for special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services.

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions
We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information. We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information. We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it. We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html
For more information: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html

Changes to the Terms of This Notice
We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, in our office, and on our web site.

This notice is effective as of _____. This notice, and any alterations or amendments made hereto will expire seven years after the date upon which the record was created. My Signature acknowledges that I have received a copy of this notice.

_____ X_____ _____
Name (printed please) Signature Date

If you are a minor, or if you are being represented by another party:

_____ X_____ _____
Personal Representative Name (Please Print) Signature Date

Description of the authority to act on behalf of the patient. _____