

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.

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information, to notify you of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your health information, and to notify affected individuals following a breach of unsecured health information. This Notice summarizes our duties and your rights concerning your information. Our duties and your rights are set forth more fully in 45 CFR Part 164. We are required to abide by the terms of our Notice that is currently in effect.

1. Uses And Disclosures We May Make Without Written Authorization. We may use or disclose your health information for certain purposes without your written authorization, including the following:

Treatment. We may use or disclose your information for purposes of treating you. For example, we may disclose your information to another health care provider so they may treat you; to provide appointment reminders; or to provide information about treatment alternatives or services we offer.

Payment. We may use or disclose your information to obtain payment for services provided to you. For example, we may disclose information to your health insurance company or other payer to obtain preauthorization or payment for treatment.

Healthcare Operations. We may use or disclose your information for certain activities that are necessary to operate our practice and ensure that our patients receive quality care. For example, we may use information to train or review the performance of our staff or make decisions affecting the practice.

Other Uses or Disclosures. We may also use or disclose your information for certain other purposes allowed by 45 CFR § 164.512 or other applicable laws and regulations, including the following:

- To avoid a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of others.
- As required by state or federal law such as reporting abuse, neglect or certain other events.
- As allowed by workers compensation laws for use in workers compensation proceedings.
- For certain public health activities such as reporting certain diseases.
- For certain public health oversight activities such as audits, investigations, or licensure actions.
- In response to a court order, warrant or subpoena in judicial or administrative proceedings.
- For certain specialized government functions such as the military or correctional institutions.
- For research purposes if certain conditions are satisfied.

• In response to certain requests by law enforcement to locate a fugitive, victim or witness, or to report deaths or certain crimes.

• To coroners, funeral directors, or organ procurement organizations as necessary to allow them to carry out their duties.

2. Disclosures We May Make Unless You Object. <u>Unless you instruct us otherwise</u>, we may disclose your information as described below.

• To a member of your family, relative, friend, or other person who is involved in your healthcare or payment for your healthcare. We will limit the disclosure to the information relevant to that person's involvement in your healthcare or payment.



• To maintain our facility directory. If a person asks for you by name, we will only disclose your name, general condition, and location in our facility. We may also disclosure your religious affiliation to clergy.

3. Uses and Disclosures With Your Written Authorization. Other uses and disclosures not described in this Notice will be made only with your written authorization, including most uses or disclosures of psychotherapy notes; for most marketing purposes; or if we seek to sell your information. You may revoke your authorization by submitting a written notice to the Privacy Contact identified below. The revocation will not be effective to the extent we have already taken action in reliance on the authorization.

4. Your Rights Concerning Your Protected Health Information. You have the following rights concerning your health information. <u>To exercise any of these rights, you must submit a written request to the Privacy Officer identified below</u>.

• You may request additional restrictions on the use or disclosure of information for treatment, payment or healthcare operations. We are *not* required to agree to the requested restriction except in the limited situation in which you or someone on your behalf pays for an item or service, and you request that information concerning such item or service not be disclosed to a health insurer.

• We normally contact you by telephone or mail at your home address. You may request that we contact you by alternative means or at alternative locations. We will accommodate reasonable requests.

• You may inspect and obtain a copy of records that are used to make decisions about your care or payment for your care, including an electronic copy. We may charge you a reasonable cost-based fee for providing the records. We may deny your request under limited circumstances, e.g., if we determine that disclosure may result in harm to you or others.

• You may request that your protected health information be amended. We may deny your request for certain reasons, e.g., if we did not create the record of if we determine that the record is accurate and complete.

• You may receive an accounting of certain disclosures we have made of your protected health information. You may receive the first accounting within a 12-month period free of charge. We may charge a reasonable cost-based fee for all subsequent requests during that 12-month period.

• You may obtain a paper copy of this Notice upon request. You have this right even if you have agreed to receive the Notice electronically.

5. Changes To This Notice. We reserve the right to change the terms of this Notice at any time, and to make the new Notice effective for all protected health information that we maintain. If we materially change our privacy practices, we will post a copy of the current Notice in our reception area and on our website. You may obtain a copy of the operative Notice from our receptionist or Privacy Officer.

6. **Complaints.** You may complain to us or to the Secretary of Health and Human Services if you believe your privacy rights have been violated. You may file a complaint with us by notifying our Privacy Officer. All complaints must be in writing. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

7. Contact Information. If you have any questions about this Notice, or if you want to object to or complain about any use or disclosure or exercise any right as explained above, please contact:

Privacy Officer:	Courtney Kauer
Phone:	541-585-2400 ext 222
Address:	2115 NE Wyatt Court, Suite 201
	Bend, OR 97701

8. Effective Date. This Notice is effective September 1, 2016.

NORTHWEST BRAIN & SPINE STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Northwest Brain & Spine complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Northwest Brain & Spine does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color national origin, age disability, or sex.

Northwest Brain and Spine provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:

- Qualified sign language interpreters
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic, other formats)
- Provides qualified interpretation services to people whose primary language is not English
- Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact Courtney Kauer, HIPAA Compliance Officer. If you believe that Northwest Brain & Spine has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with the Office for Civil Rights, 200 Independence Ave, SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington D.C. 20201.

Office for Civil Rights telephone: 1-800-368-1019 or TDD toll free: 800-537-7697. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, a Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at: U.S Department of Health and Human Services: 200 Independence Ave, SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington D. C. 20201

1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at <u>http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html</u>.

ATTENTION: If you speak Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Russian, Korean, Ukranian, Japanese, Arabic, Romanian, Mon-Khmer, Cambodian, Cushite, German, Persian (Farsi), French, or Thai, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you.

Call: BRIDGES TO COMMUNICATION 541-385-1238

Information for Individuals With Limited English Proficiency of Language Assistance Services

Spanish: ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-541-385-1238 (TTY: 1-514-385-1238).

Vietnamese: CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-1-541-385-1238 (TTY: 11-541-385-1238).

Chinese: 注意:如果您使用繁體中文,您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-1-541-385-1238 (TTY:1-1-541-385-1238)。

Russian: ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-541-385-1238 (телетайп: 1-541-385-1238).

Korean: 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-541-385-1238 (TTY: 1-541-385-1238)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Ukranian: УВАГА! Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки. Телефонуйте за номером 1-541-385-1238 (телетайп: 1-541-385-1238).

Japanese: 注意事項:日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1-541-385-1238(TTY:1-541-385-1238)まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

Arabic: ملحوظة :إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان اتصل برقم . 1-541-385-1238 هاتف الصم والبكم 1238-1238

Romanian: ATENȚIE: Dacă vorbiți limba română, vă stau la dispoziție servicii de asistență lingvistică, gratuit. Sunați la 1-541-385-1238 (TTY: 1-541-385-1238).

German: ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-541-385-1238 (TTY: 1-541-385-1238).

Persian (Farsi) 1238-385-541-1 توجه :اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما 1-141-385-1238 (TTY: فراهم می باشد .با تماس بگیرید (1238-385-1541).

French: ATTENTION : Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-541-385-1238 (ATS : 1-541-385-1238).

Thai: เรียน: ถ้าคุณพูดภาษาไทยคุณสามารถใช้บริการช่วยเหลือทางภาษาได้ฟรี โทร 1-541-385-1238 (TTY: 1-541-385-1238).