

**ESTRELLA PEDIATRICS, P.C.**  
**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.**

Estrella Pediatrics, P.C. is dedicated to maintaining the privacy of your personal health information. Each time a patient visits this office, a record is made that describes the treatments and services provided. Federal law outlines specific privacy protections and individual rights related to the information we maintain that identifies you as a patient. Protected information includes demographic data and facts about your past, present, or future physical or mental health. Our office has put in place policies and procedures to help protect your health information. We are required to provide this notice outlining our legal duties and responsibilities related to the use and disclosure of patient identifiable health information, Privacy Practices, and examples of how your information may be used or disclosed.

Practice will abide by the terms of this notice. We may revise this notice at any time. The new notice will be posted in our office in a prominent location. You can request a copy of our most current notice at any time. Revisions to the notice will be effective for all health care information this office maintains: past, present, or future.

Practice may use your individually identifiable health information for the following purposes without your authorization:

1. **Treatment:** We may use and disclose your identifiable health information to treat you and assist others in your treatment. For instance, we may send a copy of your records to another doctor so that you can be evaluated for a specific condition, or we may disclose information to others who take part in your care, such as your spouse, children, or parents.
2. **Payment:** We may use your health information to bill and collect payment for services provided. This may include providing your insurance company with the details of your treatment, sharing your payment information with other treatment providers, contacting you over the phone or through the mail about balances, or sending unpaid balances to a collection agency.
3. **Health Care Operations:** We may use and disclose health information to operate our business. For example, your health information may be used to evaluate the quality of care we provide, for state licensing, or to identify you by name when you visit the office.
4. **Appointment Reminders:** We may use and disclose your information to remind you of appointments. We may also mail you a reminder for follow-up visits.
5. **Treatment Options:** We may use your health information to inform you of treatment options or other health-related services we offer that may be of interest to you.
6. **Business Associates:** We may share your health information with other individuals or companies that perform various activities for, or on behalf of, our office such as after-hours telephone answering, billing, or quality assurance. Our Business Associates agree to protect the privacy of your information.

Practice may disclose your health information without your authorization when permitted or required to by law, including:

- For public health activities including reporting of certain communicable diseases.
- For workers' compensation or similar programs as required by law.
- For product recalls
- To report adverse reactions to medications
- To authorities when we suspect abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.
- To health oversight agencies.
- For certain judicial and administrative proceedings pursuant to an administrative order.
- For law enforcement purposes.
- To a medical examiner, coroner, or funeral director.
- For the facilitation of organ, eye, or tissue donation if you are an organ donor.
- For research purposes under strictly limited circumstances.
- To avert a serious threat to your health and safety or that of others.
- For governmental purposes such as military service or for national security.
- In the event of an emergency or for disaster relief.
- For a hospital directory
- To provide mental health care services with your prior written permission.
- To market our services and sell your information with your prior written permission.
- To raise funds, but after the first contact you can request that we not contact you again.
- In any other instance required by law.

If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, practice may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. Practice may also disclose your information to family members and/or other persons involved in your care or payment for your care. Practice may leave messages for you at home or work about your visits or test results. If you do not want us to do so, please inform our Privacy Officer in writing.

**All other uses and disclosures of your information to others will require a written, signed authorization from you. You have the right to revoke your authorization at any time except to the extent that we have already acted on it. Should you require your records to be released, Practice will provide you with an authorization form to complete and return to the address listed on it.**

Parent/Guardian Signature
Relationship
Date

### Notice of Health Information Practices

You are receiving this notice because your healthcare provider participates in a non-profit, non-governmental health information exchange (HIE) called Health Current. It will not cost you anything and can help your doctor, healthcare providers, and health plans better coordinate your care by securely sharing your health information. This Notice explains how the HIE works and will help you understand your rights regarding the HIE under state and federal law.

#### How does Health Current help you to get better care?

In a paper-based record system, your health information is mailed or faxed to your doctor, but sometimes these records are lost or don't arrive in time for your appointment. If you allow your health information to be shared through the HIE, your doctors are able to access it electronically in a secure and timely manner.

#### What health information is available through Health Current?

The following types of health information may be available:

- Hospital records
- Medical history
- Medications
- Allergies
- Lab test results
- Radiology reports
- Clinic and doctor visit information
- Health plan enrollment and eligibility
- Other information helpful for your treatment

**Who can view your health information through Health Current and when can it be shared?** People involved in your care will have access to your health information. This may include your doctors, nurses, other healthcare providers, health plan and any organization or person who is working on behalf of your healthcare providers and health plan. They may access your information for treatment, care coordination, care or case management, transition of care planning, payment for your treatment, conducting quality assessment and improvement activities and population health services. Medical examiners, public health authorities, organ procurement organizations, and others may also access health information for certain approved purposes, such as conducting death investigations, public health investigations and organ, eye or tissue donation and transplantation, as permitted by applicable law.

Health Current may also use your health information as required by law and as necessary to perform services for healthcare providers, health plans and others participating with Health Current.

The Health Current Board of Directors can expand the reasons why healthcare providers and others may access your health information in the future as long as the access is permitted by law. That information is on the Health Current website at [healthcurrent.org/permitted-use](http://healthcurrent.org/permitted-use).

You also may permit others to access your health information by signing an authorization form. They may only access the health information described in the authorization form for the purposes stated on that form.

**Does Health Current receive behavioral health information and if so, who can access it?** Health Current does receive behavioral health information, including substance abuse treatment records. Federal law gives special confidentiality protection to substance abuse treatment records from some substance abuse treatment programs. Health Current keeps these protected substance abuse treatment records separate from the rest of your health information. Health Current will only share these protected substance abuse treatment records it receives from these programs in two cases. One, medical personnel may access this information in a medical emergency. Two, you may sign a consent form giving your healthcare provider or others access to this information.

#### How is your health information protected?

Federal and state laws, such as HIPAA, protect the confidentiality of your health information. Your information is shared using secure transmission. Health Current has security measures in place to prevent someone who is not authorized from having access. Each person has a username and password, and the system records all access to your information.

#### Your Rights Regarding Secure Electronic Information Sharing You have the right to:

1. Ask for a copy of your health information that is available through Health Current. To make this request, complete the Health Information Request Form and return it to your healthcare provider.
2. Request to have any information in the HIE corrected. If any information in the HIE is incorrect, you can ask your healthcare provider to correct the information.
3. Ask for a list of people who have viewed your information through Health Current. To make this request, complete the Health Information Request Form and return it to your healthcare provider. Please let your healthcare provider know if you think someone has viewed your information who should not have.

#### You have the right under article 27, section 2 of the Arizona Constitution and Arizona Revised Statutes title 36, section 3802 to keep your health information from being shared electronically through Health Current:

1. Except as otherwise provided by state or federal law, you may "opt out" of having your information shared through Health Current. To opt out, ask your healthcare provider for the Opt Out Form. Your information will not be available for sharing through Health Current within 30 days of Health Current receiving your Opt Out Form from your healthcare provider.

**Caution:** If you opt out, your health information will NOT be available to your healthcare providers-- even in an emergency.

2. If you opt out today, you can change your mind at any time by completing an Opt Back In Form and returning it your healthcare provider.
3. If you do nothing today and allow your health information to be shared through Health Current, you may opt out in the future.

IF YOU DO NOTHING, YOUR INFORMATION MAY BE SECURELY SHARED THROUGH HEALTH CURRENT