

Coroners, Medical Examiners, and Funeral Directors: We may use and disclose health information to a coroner or medical examiner. This disclosure may be necessary to identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death. We may also disclose health information, as necessary, to funeral directors to assist them in performing their duties.

Workers' Compensation: We may disclose your health information as authorized by and to the extent necessary to comply with laws related to workers' compensation or similar programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.

Victims of Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence: We may disclose health information to the appropriate government authority if we believe a patient has been the victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence. We will only make this disclosure if you agree, or when required or authorized by law.

Military and Veterans Activities: If you are a member of the Armed Forces, we may disclose your health information to military command authorities. Health information about foreign military personnel may be disclosed to foreign military authorities.

National Security and Intelligence Activities: We may disclose your health information to authorized federal officials for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law.

Protective Services for the President and Others: We may disclose your health information to authorized federal officials so they may provide protective services for the president and others, including foreign heads of state.

Inmates: If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may disclose your health information to the correctional institution or law enforcement official to assist them in providing your health care, protecting your health and safety or the health and safety of others, or for the safety of the correctional institution.

Research: We may use and disclose your health information for certain research activities without your written authorization. For example, we might use some of your health information to decide if we have enough patients to conduct a cancer research study. For certain research activities, an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Privacy Board may approve uses and disclosures of your health information without your authorization.

Other Uses and Disclosures of Your Health Information that Require Written Authorization:

Other uses and disclosures of your health information not covered by this Notice will be made only with your written authorization. Some examples include:

- Psychotherapy Notes: We usually do not maintain psychotherapy notes about you. If we do, we will only use and disclose them with your written authorization except in limited situations.
- Marketing: We may only use and disclose your health information for marketing purposes with your written authorization. This would include making treatment communications to you when we receive a financial benefit for doing so.
- Sale of Your Health Information: We may sell your health information only with your written authorization.

If you authorize us to use or disclose your health information, you may revoke your authorization, in writing, at any time. If you revoke your authorization, we will no longer use or disclose your health information as specified by your revocation, except to the extent that we have taken action in reliance on your authorization.

Your Rights Regarding Your Health Information

You have the following rights regarding the health information we maintain about you:

Right to Request Restrictions: You have the right to request restrictions on how we use and disclose your health information for treatment, payment, or health care operations. **In most circumstances, we are not required to agree to your request.** If we do agree, we will comply with your request unless the information is needed to provide you emergency treatment. To request restrictions, you must make your request in writing and submit it to your local Texas Oncology office. We are required to agree to a request that we restrict a disclosure made to a health plan for payment or health care operations purposes that is not otherwise required by law, if you, or someone other than the health plan on your behalf, paid for the service or item in question out-of-pocket in full.

Right to Request Confidential Communications: You have the right to request that we communicate with you in a certain manner or at a certain location regarding the services you receive from us. For example, you may ask that we only contact you at work or only by mail. To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing and submit it to your local Texas Oncology office. We will not ask you the reason for your request. We will attempt to accommodate all reasonable requests.

Right to Inspect and Copy: You have the right to inspect and copy health information that may be used to make decisions about your care. To inspect and copy your health information, you must make your request in writing by filling out the appropriate form provided by us and submitting it to your local Texas Oncology office. You may request access to your medical information in a certain electronic form and format if readily producible or, if not readily producible, in a mutually agreeable electronic form and format. Further, you may request in writing that we transmit a copy of your health information to any person or entity you designate. Your written, signed request must clearly identify such designated person or entity and where you would like us to send the copy. If you request a copy of your health information, we may charge a cost-based fee for the labor, supplies, and postage required to meet your request.

We may deny your request to inspect and copy in certain very limited circumstances. If you are denied access to your health information, you may request that the denial be reviewed by a licensed health care professional chosen by us. The person conducting the review will not be the person who denied your request. We will comply with the outcome of the review.

Right to Amend: If you feel that your health information is incorrect or incomplete, you may request that we amend your information. You have the right to request an amendment for as long as the information is kept by or for us. To request an amendment, you must make your request in writing by filling out the appropriate form provided by us and submitting it to your local Texas Oncology office.

We may deny your request for an amendment. If this occurs, you will be notified of the reason for the denial and given the opportunity to file a written statement of disagreement with us that will become part of your medical record.

Right to an Accounting of Disclosures: You have the right to request an accounting of disclosures we make of your health information. Please note that certain disclosures need not be included in the accounting we provide to you.

To request an accounting of disclosures, you must make your request in writing by filling out the appropriate form provided by us and submitting it to your local Texas Oncology office. Your request must state a time period which may not be longer than six years, and which may not include dates before April 14, 2003. The first accounting you request within a 12-month period will be free. For additional accountings, we may charge you for the costs of providing the accounting. We will notify you of the costs involved and give you an opportunity to withdraw or modify your request before any costs have been incurred.

Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice: You have the right to a paper copy of this Notice at any time, even if you previously agreed to receive this Notice electronically. To obtain a paper copy of this Notice, please contact your local Texas Oncology office. You may also obtain a paper copy of this Notice at our website, www.TexasOncology.com

Changes to This Notice

We reserve the right to change the terms of this Notice at any time. We reserve the right to make the new Notice provisions effective for all health information we currently maintain, as well as any health information we receive in the future. If we make material or important changes to our privacy practices, we will promptly revise our Notice. We will post a copy of the current Notice in the waiting area of your local Texas Oncology office. Each version of the Notice will have an effective date listed on the first page. Updates to this Notice are also available at our website, www.TexasOncology.com

Complaints

If you have any questions about this Notice or would like to file a complaint about our privacy practices, please direct your inquiries to: **Texas Oncology at 1-888-864-ICAN (4226) and ask for the Privacy Officer.** You may also file a complaint with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. **You will not be retaliated against or penalized for filing a complaint.**

Questions

If you have questions about this Notice, please contact **Texas Oncology at 1-888-864-ICAN (4226) and ask for the Privacy Officer.**

