**Rebeca Sandoval, L.S.C.S.W.**

**Notice of Privacy Practices**

**Patient Summary**

I understand that health information about you is personal. I am committed to protecting your personal health information and privacy.

I will use your information to provide you care and treatment, create a record of the care and services you receive, bill your insurance in a timely fashion and operate the office in a diligent manner.

I will safeguard your information and share it only with those who need or are entitled to know. I will obtain your permission for other use or disclosure.

You may ask to see, change, restrict or obtain a copy of your information and file a formal complaint if I fail to assure your privacy or information confidentiality.

For more details, please read this Notice of Privacy Practices.

**Notice of Privacy Practices**

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at (620) 694-4078

These Privacy Practices guide the practice of Rebeca Sandoval, L.S.C.S.W., including any staff I may hire or any business associate or treatment professional with whom I need to share your health information.

We are required by law to:

* Keep health information about you private.
* Provide you this notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to health

 information about you.

* Follow the most stringent state or federal law.
* Abide by our currently published Notice of Privacy Practices.

We may change our policies at any time. Changes will apply to health information we already have. You will be notified if we make significant changes to our policy while you are receiving our services. You will be offered a copy of the current notice at the time you are admitted for treatment. You will also be asked to acknowledge in writing your receipt of this notice.

**How we may use and disclose health information about you:**

* We may use and disclose health information about you for treatment (example, sending medical information about you to a specialist as part of a referral); to obtain payment for treatment (example, sending billing information to your insurance company); and to support our health care operations (using patient information to improve quality care).
* We may use and disclose health information about you without your prior authorization for several other reasons. Subject to certain requirements, we may give out health information about you without prior authorization for public health purposes, abuse or neglect reporting, health oversight audits or inspections, funeral arrangements, organ donation, workers’ compensation purposes, and emergencies. We also disclose medical information when required by law, such as in response to valid judicial or administrative orders.
* We may disclose health information about you to a friend or family member who is involved in your medical care or to disaster relief authorities so that your family can be notified of your location and condition.

**Other uses of health information:**

* In any other situation not involving routine care, financial and insurance matters or office operations, we will ask for your written authorization before using or disclosing health information about you. If you choose to authorize use or disclosure, you can later revoke that authorization by notifying us in writing of your decision.

**Your rights regarding health information about you:**

* In many cases, you have the right to look at or get a copy of health information that we use to make decisions about your care, after you submit a written request. If you request copies, we may charge a fee for the cost of copying, mailing or related supplies. If we deny your request to review or obtain a copy, you may submit a written request for a review of that decision.
* If you believe that information in your record is incorrect or if important information is missing, you have the right to request that we correct the records, by submitting a request in writing that provides your reason for requesting the amendment. We could deny your request to amend a record if the information was not created by us; if it is not part of the health information maintained by us; or if we determine that record is accurate. You may appeal, in writing, a decision by us not to amend a record.
* You have the right to a list of those instances where we have disclosed medical information about you, other than for treatment, payment, health care operations or where you specifically authorized a disclosure, when you submit a written request. The request must state the time period desired for the accounting, which must be less than a 6-year period and starting after April 14, 2003. The first disclosure list request in a 12-month period is free; other requests will be charged according to our cost of producing the list. We will inform you of the cost before you incur any costs.
* If this notice was sent to you electronically, you have the right to a paper copy of this notice.
* You have the right to request that health information about you be communicated to you in a confidential manner, such as sending mail to an address other than your home, by notifying us in writing of the specific way or location for us to use to communicate with you.
* You may request, in writing, that we not use or disclose health information about you for treatment, payment or health care operations or to persons involved in your care except when specifically authorized by you, when required by law, or in an emergency. We will consider your request, but we are not legally required to accept it. We will inform you of our decision on your request.

All written requests or appeals should be submitted to our Privacy Officer listed at the bottom of this notice.

* If you wish to file a complaint because you feel that your privacy rights may have been violated, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your records, you may contact our Privacy Office (listed below).
* Finally, you may send a written complaint to the U.S Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights.
* Under no circumstance will you be penalized or retaliated against for filing a complaint

Rebeca Sandoval, L.S.C.S.W., Privacy Officer

(620) 694-4078

127 East Avenue B Suite B

Hutchinson, KS 67501

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Office of Civil Rights

200 Independence Ave., S.W.

Washington, DC 20201

Effective: August 01, 2009