Privacy Policy

Introduction

Medical Arts Center Clinic (MACC) is committed to protecting the privacy of your health information. This notice explains how we may use and share your medical information, your rights regarding that information, and our responsibilities under federal law, including the HIPAA Privacy Rule. HIPAA requires health care providers to give patients a clear explanation of their rights and how their information is used.

How We Use and Share Your Health Information

We may use or disclose your health information for the following purposes:

- **Treatment** — To provide, coordinate, or manage your medical care.
- **Payment** — To bill and receive payment from you, your insurance company, or other payers.
- **Health Care Operations** — For activities that support clinic operations, such as quality improvement, staff training, and compliance monitoring.
- **Required Disclosures** — When required by law, including public health reporting, abuse or neglect reporting, or responding to court orders.
- **With Your Authorization** — For any other use not described above, we will obtain your written permission.

These categories reflect standard HIPAA-compliant uses and disclosures

Your Rights

You have important rights regarding your health information, including:

- **Right to Access** — You may request copies of your medical records.
- **Right to Request Corrections** — You may ask us to correct information you believe is inaccurate or incomplete.
- **Right to Request Restrictions** — You may ask us to limit how we use or share your information.
- **Right to Confidential Communications** — You may request that we contact you in a specific way (for example, by phone, mail, or text).
- **Right to an Accounting of Disclosures** — You may request a list of certain disclosures we have made.

- **Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice** — You may request a printed copy at any time.

These rights are part of the standard Notice of Privacy Practices required by HIPAA.

Our Responsibilities

We are required to:

- Maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information (PHI).
- Notify you if a breach occurs that may have compromised your information.
- Follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice.
- Provide updates if our privacy practices change.

HIPAA requires covered entities to maintain clear policies and procedures to safeguard PHI.

Special Protections

Certain types of health information, including substance use disorder treatment records, may receive additional protections under federal law. As of 2026, HIPAA notices must include information about these protections.

Without your consent or authorization:

Public Interest and National Priority Disclosures

HIPAA permits or requires us to share your information without authorization for specific public safety, legal, and regulatory purposes:

- **Required by Law:** When federal, state, or local law mandates disclosure (e.g., reporting certain wounds or injuries).
- **Public Health Activities:** Reporting to public health authorities to control or prevent disease, injury, or disability; tracking vital stats (e.g., births and deaths); or reporting child abuse or neglect.
- **Victims of Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence:** Reporting to government authorities if we reasonably believe you are a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence, to the extent authorized or required by law.
- **Health Oversight Activities:** Sharing records with government agencies that oversee the healthcare system for audits, investigations, inspections, and licensure.
- **Judicial and Administrative Proceedings:** Responding to a court order, administrative order, subpoena, or discovery request (subject to specific legal safeguards).

- **Law Enforcement Purposes:** Disclosing information to law enforcement officials to identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person, or to report crimes occurring on clinic premises.
- **Organ and Tissue Donation:** Sharing data with organ procurement organizations for organ, eye, or tissue donation and transplantation.
- **Coroners, Medical Examiners, and Funeral Directors:** Identifying a deceased person, determining cause of death, or enabling funeral directors to carry out their duties.
- **Research:** Disclosing information for research projects that have been approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Privacy Board that has formally waived the authorization requirement.
- **To Avert a Serious Threat to Health or Safety:** Using or disclosing PHI if we believe in good faith that it is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of the public or another person.
- **Specialized Government Functions:** Sharing information for military and veterans activities, national security and intelligence operations, protective services for the President, or correctional institutions (if you are an inmate).
- **Workers' Compensation:** Releasing PHI to comply with workers' compensation laws and other similar programs established by law.