

GASTRO ONE
G.I. DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC CENTER, L.L.C.
Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information

The office is permitted by federal privacy laws to make uses and disclosures of your health information for purposes of treatment, payment, and health care operations. Protected health information is the information we create and obtain in providing our services to you. Such information may include documenting your symptoms, examination, diagnoses, treatment, test results, and applying for future care or treatment. It also includes billing documents for those services. Examples of uses of your health information for treatment purposes are: A nurse obtains treatment information about you and records it in a health record. During the course of your treatment, the physician determines he/she will need to consult with another specialist in the area. He/she will share the information with such specialist and obtain his/her input. Example of use of your health information for payment purposes: We submit requests for payment to your health insurance company. A health insurance company or business associate helping us obtain payment requests information from us regarding your medical care. We will provide information to them about you and the care given. Examples of Use of Your Information for health care operations: We may obtain services from business associates such as quality assessment, quality improvement, outcome evaluation, protocol and clinical guidelines development, training programs, credentialing, medical review, legal services, and insurance. We will share information about you with such business associates as necessary to obtain these services.

Patient Health Information Rights - The health and billing records we maintain are the physical property of the practice. You have the following rights with respect to your protected health information: to request a restriction on certain uses and disclosures of your health information by delivering the request in writing to our office—we are not required to grant the request but we will attempt to comply with any reasonable; to obtain a paper copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information (“Notice”) by making a request at our office; to inspect and copy your health record and billing record -you may exercise this right by delivering the request in writing to our office using the form we provide to you upon request; to request that your health care record be amended to correct incomplete or incorrect information appeal a denial of access to your protected health information except in certain circumstances; by delivering a written request to our office using the form we provide to you upon request. (The physician or other health care provider is not required to make such amendments); you may file a statement of disagreement if your amendment is denied, and require that the request for amendment and any denial be attached in all future disclosures of your protected health information; to receive an accounting of disclosures of your health information as required to be maintained by law by delivering a written request to our office using the form we provide to you upon request. An accounting will not include internal uses of information for treatment, payment, or operations, disclosures made to you or made at your request, or disclosures made to family members or friends in the course of providing care; to confidential communication by requesting that communication of your health information be made by alternative means or at an alternative location by delivering the request in writing to our office using the form we give you upon request. If you want to exercise any of the above rights, please contact the supervisor of your respective practice site during normal hours. All requests should be in writing. You will be provided you with assistance regarding exercising your rights.

Our responsibilities and requirements: Maintain the privacy of your health information, as required by law; provide you with a notice as to our duties and privacy practices as to the information we collect and maintain about you; abide by the terms of this Notice; notify you if we cannot accommodate a requested restriction or request; and accommodate your reasonable requests regarding methods to communicate health information with you; and Accommodate your request for an accounting of disclosures. We reserve the right to amend, change, or eliminate provisions in our privacy practices and access practices and to enact new provisions regarding the protected health information we maintain. If our information practices change, we will amend our Notice. You are entitled to receive a revised copy of the Notice by calling and requesting a copy of our “Notice” or by visiting any of our practice sites and picking up a copy.

To Request Information or File a Complaint - If you have questions, would like additional information, or want to report a problem regarding the handling of your information, you may contact the supervisor for your respective treatment site or the Privacy Officer @ 901-624-5151. Additionally, if you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a written complaint with our office by delivering the written complaint to the Privacy Officer @ 1310 Wolf Park Dr., Germantown, Tennessee 39138. You may also file a complaint by mailing it or e-mailing it to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, (202) 619-0257 or Toll Free: 877-696-6775 www.hhs.gov/ocr/hippa/ We cannot, and will not, require you

to waive the right to file a complaint with the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) as a condition of receiving treatment from the office. We cannot, and will not, retaliate against you for filing a complaint with the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Following is a List of Other Uses and Disclosures Allowed by the Privacy Rule

Patient Contact: We may contact you to provide you with appointment reminders, with information about treatment alternatives, or with information about other health-related benefits and services that may be of interest to you. We may contact you as part of a fund raising effort. If we are unable to reach you by telephone, we will exercise our professional judgment with leaving results of tests and /or procedures on your answering machine. Notification – Opportunity to Agree or Object: Unless you object we may use or disclose your protected health information to notify, or assist in notifying, a family member, personal representative, or other person responsible for your care, about your location, and about your general condition, or your death. Communication with Family: If you do not object or in an emergency, using our best judgment, we may disclose to a family member, other relative, close personal friend, or any other person you identify, health information relevant to that person's involvement in your care or in payment for such care. We may use and disclose your protected health information to assist in disaster relief efforts.

Opportunity to Agree or Object Not Required - Public Health Activities Controlling Disease - As required by law, we may disclose your protected health information to public health or legal authorities charged with preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability. Abuse & Neglect - We will disclose protected health information to public authorities as required by law to report abuse or neglect. We may disclose protected health information to governmental authorities to the extent the disclosure is authorized by statute or regulation and if in the exercise of professional judgment, the doctor believes the disclosure is necessary to prevent serious harm to the individual or other potential victims. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) - We may disclose to the FDA your protected health information relating to adverse events with respect to food, supplements, products and product defects, or post-marketing surveillance information to enable product recalls, repairs, or replacements. Work Related Injury or Illness- With medical surveillance or the evaluation of whether an individual has a work related injury or illness, the organization may disclose protected health information pertaining to a work related injury or illness to the employer if the employer needs the findings in order to comply with OSHA regulations. Oversight Agencies - Federal law allows us to release your protected health information to appropriate health oversight agencies or for health oversight activities to include audits, civil, administrative or criminal investigations: inspections; licensures or disciplinary actions, and for similar reasons related to the administration of healthcare. Judicial / Administrative Proceedings - We may disclose your protected health information in the course of any judicial or administrative proceeding as allowed or required by law, with your consent, or as directed by a proper court order or administrative tribunal, provided that only the protected health information released is expressly authorized by such order, or in response to a subpoena, discovery request or other lawful process. Law Enforcement - We may disclose your protected health information for law enforcement purposes as required by law; such as when required by court order, including laws that require reporting of certain types of wounds or other physical injury. Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors - We may disclose your protected health information to funeral directors or coroners consistent with applicable law to allow them to carry out their duties. Organ Procurement Organizations - Consistent with applicable law, we may disclose your protected health information to organ procurement organizations or other entities engaged in the procurement, banking, or transplantation of organs, eyes, or tissue for the purpose of donation and transplant. Research - We may disclose information to researchers when an institutional review board, which has reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of your protected health information, has approved their research. Threat to Health and Safety - To avert a serious threat to health or safety, we may disclose your protected health information consistent with applicable law to prevent or lessen a serious, imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public. For Specialized Governmental Functions - We may disclose your protected health information for specialized government functions as authorized by law such as to Armed Forces personnel, for national security purposes, or to public assistance program personnel. Correctional Institutions - If you are an inmate of a correctional institution, we may disclose to the institution or its agents the protected health information necessary for your health and the health and safety of other individuals. Workers Compensation - If you are seeking compensation through Workers Compensation, we may disclose your protected health information to the extent necessary to comply with laws relating to Workers Compensation. Other Uses and Disclosures - Other uses and disclosures besides those identified in this Notice will be made only as otherwise authorized by law or with your written authorization which you may revoke except to the extent information or action has already been taken.

Website - We maintain a website that provides information about our entity; this Notice is on the website.

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