



MidValley Family Practice 1450 E. Valley Rd Suite 102 Basalt, CO 81621
Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information

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! MVFP 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, and test results, diagnoses, treatment, 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.

Examples of Uses of Your Health Information for Payment Purposes:

We submit requests for payment to your health insurance company. The health insurance company (or other business associate helping us obtain payment) given. We will provide information to them about you and the care given.

Example of Use of Ours Information for Health Care Operations:

We obtain services from our insurers or other business associates such as quality assessment, quality improvement, outcome evaluation, protocol and clinical guideline development, training programs, credentialing, medical review, legal services, and insurance. We will share information about you with such insurers or other business associates as necessary to obtain these services.

Health Information Exchange

It is our commitment to you that we will provide the best possible healthcare for you. As part of that commitment, our office participates in a Health Information Exchange (HIE), along with other medical offices, hospitals and health agencies. The HIE is a data warehouse that stores health records such as, physician notes, hospital records, allergy information, medication information, lab results, and imaging results from hospitals, participating physician offices and health agencies. The primary purpose of the HIE is to provide immediate and accurate access to your health information for any participating healthcare professional who is treating you.

We participate with the HIE to reduce the number of duplicate services, avoid medication or allergy interactions, and to have a full picture of your health. This information can prove to be vital in cases of emergency and/or when you or a family member is unable to or unavailable to share medical information about you.

Health information in your medical records from this office including: primary care provider notes regarding the reason for your visit, family/social history medications, allergies, tobacco use, alcohol use, drug use, communication with your primary care provider about depression and/or other mental health issues will be available for access to healthcare providers who are subscribers of the HIE. This information is only visible by licensed healthcare professionals and approved healthcare staff-members who NEED to obtain your health information in order to care for you. Notes from our behavioral health providers will not be sent or viewable on the HIE. In Western Colorado, the primary HIE is managed and securely monitored by Quality Health Network (QHN). Colorado has an additional HIE, Colorado Regional Health Information Organization (CORHIO).

If you would like to opt out of participation with the HIE, you must notify us in writing. We will send a request to QHN on your behalf. Be advised that if you choose to opt out of participation of the HIE, none of your records will be available to our office or any other healthcare provider on the HIE even in the case of emergency.

Your Health Information Rights

The health and billings records we maintain are the physical property of the MVFP. The information in it, however, belongs to you. You have a right to:

- Request a restriction on certain uses and disclosures of your health information by delivering the request to MVFP's office- We are not required to grant the request, but we will comply with any request granted;
- Obtain a paper copy of the current Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information ("Notice") by making a request to MVFP's office;
- Request that you be allowed to inspect and copy your health record and billing record- you may exercise this right by delivering the request to MVFP's office;
- Appeal a denial of access to your protected health information, except in certain circumstances;
- Request that your health care record be amended to correct incomplete or incorrect information by delivering a request to MVFP's office. We may deny your request if you ask us to amend information that;
- Was not created by us, unless the person or entity that created the information is no longer available to make the amendment;
- Is not part of the health information kept by or for MVFP;
- Is not part of the information that you would be permitted to inspect and copy; or,
- Is accurate and complete.
If your request is denied, you will be informed of the reason for the denial and will have an opportunity to submit a statement of disagreement to be maintained with your records;
- Request that communication of your health information be made by alternative means or at an alternative location by delivering the request in writing to MVFP's office;
- Obtain an accounting of disclosures of your health information as required to be maintained by law by delivering a request o MVFP's office. An accounting will not include uses and disclosures of information for treatment, payment, or operations; disclosures or uses made to you or made at your request, uses or disclosures made pursuant to an authorization signed by you; uses or disclosures made pursuant to an authorization signed by you; uses or disclosures made in a facility directory or to family members or friends relevant to that person's involvement in your care or in payment for such care; or, uses or disclosures to modify family or others responsible for your care of your location, condition, or your death.
- Revoke authorizations that you made previously to use or disclose information by delivering a written revocation to MVFP's office, except to the extent information or action has already been taken.

If you want to exercise any of the above rights, please contact practice manager, in person or in writing, during regular, business hours. She will inform you of the steps that need to be taken to exercise your rights.

Our Responsibilities

MVFP is required to:

- 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.

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, revised copy of the Notice by calling and requesting a copy of our "Notice" or by visiting our office 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 practice manager 970-927-4666

Additionally, if you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a written complaint at our office by delivering the written complaint to **the practice manager**. You may also file a complaint by mailing it or e-mailing it to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, whose street address and e-mail address is: Office for Civil Rights- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services- 200 Independence Avenue S. W. – Room 509F, HHH Building- Washington, D.C. 20201

- We cannot, and will not, require you to waive the right to file a complaint with the secretary of Health and Human
- 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 conditions of receiving treatment from MVFP.
- We cannot, and will not, retaliate again you for filing a complaint with the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Other Disclosures and uses

Communication with Family

- Using our best judgment, we may disclose to a family member, other relative, close personal friend, or any other person you identify, health information reliant to that person's involvement in your care or in payment for such care if you do not object or in an emergency.

Notification

- 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.

Research

- We may disclose information to researchers when their research has been approved by an institutional review board that has reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of your protected health information.

Disaster Relief

- We may use and disclose your protected health information to assist in disaster relief efforts.

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 for the purpose of tissue donation and transplant.

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.

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.

Public Health

- As authorized by law, we may disclose your protected health information to public health or legal authorities charged with preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability; to report reactions to medications or problems with products; to notify people of recalls; to notify a person who may have been exposed to a disease or who is at risk for contracting or spreading a disease or condition.

Abuse and Neglect

- We may disclose your protected health information to public authorities as allowed by law to report abuse or neglect.

Employers

- We may release health information about you to your employer if we provide health care services to you at the request of your employer, and the health care services are provided either to conduct an evaluation relating to medical surveillance of the workplace or to evaluate whether you have a work-related illness or injury. In such circumstances, we will give you a written notice of such release of information to your employer. Any other disclosures to your employer will be made only if you execute a specific authorization for the release of that information to your employer.

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.

Law Enforcement

- We may disclose your protected health information for law enforcement purposes as required by law, such as when required by a court order, or in cases involving felony prosecution, or to the extent an individual is in the custody of law enforcement involving felony prosecution, or to the extent an individual is in the custody of law enforcement.

Health Oversight

- Federal law allows us to release your protected health information to appropriate health oversight agencies or for health oversight activities.

Serious Threat

- 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.

Coroners, Medical Examiners, and Funeral Directors

- We may release health information to a coroner or medical examiner. This may be necessary, for example, to identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death. We may also release health information about patients to funeral directors as necessary for them to carry out their duties.

e-Prescribing

- The e-prescribing vendor, Centricity and Surescripts, the vendor for e-prescribing pharmacies, are both in compliance with HIPAA e-prescribing standards.

Other Uses

- Other uses and disclosures, besides those identified in this Notice, will be made only as otherwise required by law or with your written authorization and you may revoke the authorization as previously provided in this Notice under "Your Health Information Right."

Website- If we maintain a website that provides information about our entity, this Notice will be on the website.