



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 CAREFULLY. THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT TO US.

OUR LEGAL DUTY

Dentist may be required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your health information and provide notice of their legal duties and privacy practices for health information. Protection of patient privacy is important to Dr. Andrew M. Johnson. This notice summarizes the privacy practices that will be followed by our office and staff, and your rights concerning your health information. This Notice will apply to all health information collected. You may request a copy of our Notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this Notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice.

USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment. For example, we may use or disclose your health information to another dentist, physician or other health care provider providing treatment to you. We may use and disclose health information about you for health care operations, such as quality assessment and improvement.

Your Authorization: Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect.

To Your Family and Friends: We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the Patient Rights section of this Notice. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend or other person involved in your treatment to the extent necessary to help with your healthcare.

Persons Involved In Care: We will also use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of health information.

Marketing Health-Related Services: We will not use your health information for marketing communications without your written authorization.

Required by Law: We may use or disclose your health information when we are required to do so by law.

Abuse or Neglect: We may disclose your health information to appropriate authorities if we reasonably believe that you are a possible victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence or the possible victim of other crimes. We may disclose your health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of others.

National Security: We may disclose to military authorities the health information of Armed Forces personnel under certain circumstances. We may disclose to authorized federal officials health information required for lawful intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities. We may disclose to correctional institution or law enforcement official having lawful custody of protected health information of inmate or patient under certain circumstances.

PATIENT RIGHTS

Access: You have the right to look at or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. Contact us using the information listed at the end of the Notices for assistance in reaching the dentist or facility holding your health information.

Disclosure Accounting: You may have the right to receive a list of instances in which your health information was disclosed for purposes other than treatment or certain other activities for the last 6 years, but not before April 14, 2003.

Restrictions: You may request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. In most cases we are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in an emergency).

Alternative Communication: You may request that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. We may agree to reasonable requests.

Amendment: You may request that we amend your health information. (Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why the information should be amended.) We may deny your request under certain circumstances.