

## Notice of Privacy Practices

**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.**

### **Uses and Disclosures**

**Treatment.** Your health information may be used by staff members or disclosed to other health care professionals for the purpose of evaluating your health, diagnosing medical conditions, and providing treatment. For example, results of laboratory tests and procedures will be available in your medical record to all health professionals who may provide treatment or who may be consulted by staff members.

**Payment.** Your health information may be used to seek payment from your health plan, from other third party payers, or from credit card companies that you may use to pay for services. For example, your health plan may request and receive information on dates of service, the services provided, and the medical condition being treated.

**Health care operations.** Your health information may be used as necessary to support the day-to-day activities and management of Orange County Migraine & Headache Center. For example, information on the services you received may be used to support budgeting and financial reporting, and activities to evaluate and promote quality.

**Law enforcement.** Your health information may be disclosed to law enforcement agencies to support government audits and inspections, to facilitate law-enforcement investigations, and to comply with government mandated reporting.

**Public health reporting.** Your health information may be disclosed to public health agencies as required by law. For example, we are required to report certain communicable diseases to the state's public health department.

**Appointment reminders.** Your health information will be used by our staff to send you appointment reminders. You may be called the day prior to your appointment as a reminder.

**Email.** Our office asks for your email address on our patient information form. This information may be used to communicate general office, appointment, clinical and/or marketing information to our patients. Our patients may request to have their email address removed from their computer record at any time. In no case will this information be shared or distributed outside of Orange County Migraine & Headache Center (OCMHC) without the patient's direct consent.

Other uses and disclosures require your authorization. Disclosure of your health information or its use for any purpose other than those listed above requires your specific

written authorization. If you change your mind after authorizing a use or disclosure of your information you may submit a written revocation of the authorization. However, your decision to revoke the authorization will not affect or undo any use or disclosure of information that occurred before you notified us of your decision to revoke your authorization.

### **Individual Rights**

You have certain rights under the federal privacy standards. These include:

1. The right to request restrictions on the use and disclosure of your protected health information.
2. The right to receive confidential communications concerning your medical condition and treatment.
3. The right to inspect and copy your protected health information.
4. The right to amend or submit corrections to your protected health information.
5. The right to receive an accounting of how and to whom your protected health information.
6. The right to receive an accounting of how and to whom your protected health information has been disclosed.
7. The right to receive a printed copy of this notice.

### **Orange County Migraine & Headache Center Duties**

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information and to provide you with this notice of privacy practices.

We also are required to abide by the privacy policies and practices that are outlined in this notice.

### **Right to Revise Privacy Practices**

As permitted by law, we reserve the right to amend or modify our privacy policies and practices. These changes in our policies and practices may be required by changes in federal and state laws and regulations. Upon request, we will provide you with the most recently revised notice on any office visit. The revised policies and practices will be applied to all protected health information we maintain.

### **Requests to Inspect Protected Health Information**

You may generally inspect or copy the protected health information that we maintain. As permitted by federal regulation, we require that requests to inspect or copy protected health information be submitted in writing. You may obtain a form to request access to your records by contacting the front office receptionist. Your request will be reviewed and will generally be approved unless there are legal or medical reasons to deny the request.

### **Complaints**

If you would like to submit a comment or complaint about your privacy practices, you can do so by sending a letter outlining your concerns to the owner, Susan Hutchinson, M.D. at the address noted below.

If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated, you should call the matter to our attention by sending a letter describing the cause of your concern to the same address. You will not be penalized or otherwise retaliated against for filing a complaint.

You may also file a complaint with the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

**Contact Person**

The name and address of the person you can contact for further information concerning our privacy practices is:

Susan Hutchinson, M.D.  
(949) 861-8717

**Effective Date**

This Notice is effective on or after February 12, 2007.