

PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES OF DURANGO
Notice of Privacy Policy

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION.

We understand that information about you and your health is personal and sensitive in nature. Our primary responsibility for your personal health information is to keep it safe. Each time you visit our practice we create a record of the care and services you receive. Your health information includes any record we create or maintain to provide care to you, or to obtain payment for that care, including information in your medical record and billing records. We need this information to provide quality care and to comply with certain legal requirements. This notice describes your rights and certain obligations we have regarding the way we use and share your health information. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) federal privacy law requires us to :

- Provide this notice to you
- Maintain the privacy of your health information
- Follow the terms of this notice

As a patient or a parent/legally authorized representative of a patient, you are the patient's "personal representative". Please read this notice with the understanding that we are discussing "you" to mean the patient.

Your Rights

When it comes to health information, you have certain rights. This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

Request an electronic or paper copy of your medical record

- You can ask to see or get an electronic or paper copy of your medical record and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this.
- We will provide a copy or a summary of your health information, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.

Ask us to correct your medical record

- You can ask us to correct health information about you that you think is incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this.
- We may say "no" to your request, but we'll tell you why in writing within 60 days.

Request confidential communications

- You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address.
- We will say "yes" to all reasonable requests.

Ask us to limit what we use or share

- You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations.
- We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say "no" if it would affect your care.
- If you pay for a service or health care item out-of-pocket in full, you can ask us not to share that information for the purpose of payment or our operations with your health insurer.
- We will say "yes" unless a law requires us to share that information.

Request a list of those with whom we've shared information

- You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we've shared your health information for six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why.
- We will include all the disclosures except for disclosures related to treatment, payment,

PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES OF DURANGO
Notice of Privacy Policy

healthcare operations, or disclosures you have authorized.

- We will provide an accounting each year for free but will need to charge a reasonable cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

Request a copy of this privacy notice

- You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

Choose someone to act for you

- If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information.
- We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated

If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may discuss your concerns with any staff member. You may also deliver a written complaint to Moni Grushkin, Compliance Officer at Pediatric Associates of Durango. You may also file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/. If you complain, we will not retaliate against you.

Your Choices

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

In these cases, you have both the right and choice to tell us to:

- Share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in your care.
- Share information in a disaster relief situation.

If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

In these cases we never share your information unless you give us written permission:

- Marketing purposes
- Sale of your information
- Most uses and disclosure of psychotherapy notes
- Any uses or disclosures not described in this notice

In the case of fundraising:

- We may contact you for fundraising efforts, but you can tell us not to contact you again.

Our Uses and Disclosures

How do we typically share your health information?

We typically use or share your health information in the following ways.

PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES OF DURANGO
Notice of Privacy Policy

Treat you

- We can use your health information and share it with other professionals who are treating you.

Example: A doctor treating you for an injury asks another doctor about your overall health condition.

Run our organization

- We can use and share your health information to run our practice, improve your care, and contact you when necessary.

Example: Let you know about health-related events or services.

Bill for your services

- We can share your health information to bill and get payment from health care plans or other entities.

Example: We give information about you to your health insurance plan so it will pay for your services.

Pharmacy Benefit Manager

In order to provide continuity of care in your medication prescriptions, we will download your prescription history, if available, from your pharmacy benefit manager through the electronic health record. You may request that we do not access this information for your health care by contacting our Compliance Officer.

Health Information Exchange

The electronic health record system operated by Pediatric Associates of Durango may be accessed by your health care provider(s) via secure remote access or secure health information exchange processes. If you do not wish to allow authorized providers, nurses, and or other clinicians involved in your care outside of Pediatric Associates of Durango to use or disclose your medical information with one another through electronic means, you may opt-out by signing the Pediatric Associates of Durango HIE Opt-Out Request Form. If you opt-out of electronically sharing your medical information, your medical information will continue to be used in accordance with this Notice and applicable law, but will not be made electronically available to health care providers outside of Pediatric Associates of Durango.

Colorado State Immunization Information Systems

We share your immunization records with the state registry in order for all providers caring for you to have the most complete record of your immunization history. If you do not wish to participate in this registry, please ask us for the opt-out form.

Other Uses and Disclosures

How else can we share your health information?

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways, usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes.

For more information please see

www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html

Help with public health and safety

We can share health information about you for certain situations such as:

- Preventing disease
- Helping with product recalls
- Reporting adverse reactions to medications
- Reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence

PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES OF DURANGO
Notice of Privacy Policy

- Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety

Do research

- We can use or share your information for health research.

Comply with the law

- We will share information about you if state or federal law requires it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services to verify that we are complying with federal privacy law.

Respond to organ and tissue donation requests

- We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.

Work with a medical examiner or funeral director

- We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner or funeral director, when an individual dies.

Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests. We can share health information about you:

- For workers compensation claims
- For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
- With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law
- For special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

- We can share your health information in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena

Our Responsibilities

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it. For more information see:
www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html

Changes to the terms of this notice

- We reserve the right to change this notice and to make the revised or changed notice effective for medical information we already have about you as well as any information we receive in the future.
- The new notice will be available upon request, in our clinic, and on our website:
www.paofdurango.com
- If you have questions, need more information, or want to report a problem about the handling of your protected health information, you may contact: Compliance Officer, Moni Grushkin, at 970-259-7337