

PRIVACY PRACTICES

This notice of Privacy Practices describes how we may use and disclose your protected health information to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations and/or other purposes that are permitted or required by law. It also describes your rights to access your personal information; demographic, past or present health condition as relate to your health care services. This information does not supersede our office policy.

We are required by law to protect the privacy of your information as stated by the Federal Government. This practice was established 12.31.2004.

We use protected health information about your health care operations, claims processing, and care/treatment of requesting physicians. Any other information may only be released with your written consent. We may use/disclose protected health information without your consent to authorization as for public health purposes, for auditing purposes, for research, and for emergencies. We also provide protected health information when required by law, law enforcement purposes, legal proceedings, military activity and nation security, to a coroner, funeral director or medical examiner, and when required by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Although your health record is the physical property of this facility, the information belongs to you.

You may:

1. request a restriction on certain uses and disclosures of your information a provided by 45 CFR 164.522
2. obtain a paper copy of the notice of privacy practices upon request
3. inspect and obtain a copy of your health record as provided for in 45 CFR 164.524
4. amend your health record as provided in 45 CFT 164.528
5. obtain an accounting of disclosures of your health information as provided in 45 CFR 164.528

You have the right to inspect and copy your protected health information for as long as we maintain the protected health information. Under federal law, however, you may not inspect or copy: psychotherapy notes or records pertaining to the suspicion and/or confirmation of civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding, and protected health information that is subject to law that prohibits access to protected health information. Depending on the circumstances, a decision to deny access may be reviewed.

You have the right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures we have made, if any, of your protected health information. The right applies to disclosures for purposes other than treatment, payment of healthcare operations as described in the notice of privacy practices. It excludes disclosures we may have made to you or a family member for notifications purposes. You have the right to receive this information regarding these disclosures that occurred after December 31, 2004; the right to receive this information is subject to certain exceptions, restrictions and limitations. You may complain to us or to the Secretary of Health and Human Services if you believe your privacy rights have been violated by us.

As noted above, the policy and procedure statues of this facility may not be superseded by HIPAA. Any information access requested by you maybe denied according to the policy of the above statement of a patient's circumstances. Any information requested may be considered by the attending radiologist at the time of the request. It is the policy of this facility that any findings of a study will be related to the patient by the referring physician.

Questions and/or complaints may be addressed in writing to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and/or Advanced Imaging San Marcos, 1330 Wonder World Dr., Ste 202, San Marcos, TX 78666.