

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

OUR LEGAL DUTY

We are required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your health information. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice while it is in effect.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law, and to make new Notice provisions effective for all protected health information that we maintain. When we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and post the new Notice clearly and prominently at our practice location, and we will provide copies of the new Notice upon request.

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.

HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

We may use and disclose your health information for different purposes, including treatment, payment, and health care operations. For example:

Treatment: We may use or disclose your health information to another dentist or health care provider providing treatment to you, or if we refer you to another health care provider.

Payment: We may use and disclose your health information to obtain reimbursement for the treatment and services you receive from us or another entity involved with your care. Payment activities include billing, collections, claims management, and determinations of eligibility and coverage to obtain payment from you, an insurance company, or another third party. For example, we may send claims to your dental health plan containing certain health information.

Healthcare Operations: We may use and disclose your health information in connection with our healthcare operations. For example, healthcare operations include quality assessment and improvement activities, conducting training programs, and licensing activities.

Individuals Involved in Your Care or Payment for Your Care: We may disclose your health information to your family or friends or any other individual identified by you when they are involved in your care or in the payment for your care, or to notify such individuals of your location or general condition, but only if you agree that we may do so, or, based on our professional judgment, we determine that you would not object to the disclosure. We will also use our professional judgment and our experience in allowing a person to pick up supplies-rays, or other similar forms of health information on your behalf.

Use and Disclosure of Health Information Required by law: We may use and disclose your health information when required by federal or state law; when required in court or administrative proceedings; for public health activities; to health oversight agencies; to coroners, medical examiners, and funeral directors; to the military; to federal officials for lawful intelligence and national security activities; to

correctional institutions regarding inmates; to law informant officials; to report abuse, neglect, or domestic violent; to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health and safety of others; and as authorized by state worker's compensation laws.

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

Contacting You: We may use and disclose your health information to contact you about appointments and other matters, and send you electronic billing statements. We may contact you by telephone, email, or mail. We may leave you messages at the telephone you give us.

Health-Related Services: We may use and disclose your health information to send you information by mail or email about our health-related products and services available to you, general dental health news and information, and offers available only to our patients. We will tell you how to cancel these communications.

Your Authorization: As explained in this Notice, we may use and disclose your health information for treatment, payment, or health care operations; In certain situations, if you agree or object; as required by law; to contact you; and to send you health-related information, but we cannot use or disclose your health information for any other reasons without your written authorization. You may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us written authorization to use your health information or disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any uses or disclosures already made with your authorization while it was in effect.

PATIENT RIGHTS

Right to see and Copy Your Health Information: You have the right to look at or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies. We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so. (You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. You may obtain a form to request access by using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. We will charge you a reasonable cost-based fee for expenses such as copies and staff time. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this Notice. If you request copies, we will charge you 10 cents a copy for each page, postage if you want the copies mailed to you. If you request an alternative format, we will charge a cost-based fee for providing your health information in that format. If you prefer, we will prepare a summary or an explanation of your health information for a fee. Contact us using the information listed at the end of the Notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.)

Disclosure Accounting: You have the right to receive a list of instances in which we or our business associates disclosed your health information for purposes, other than treatment, payment, healthcare operations and certain other activities, for the last 6 years, but not before April 14, 2003. If you request this accounting more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests.

Restriction: You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. 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 have the right to request that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. (You must make your request in

writing). Your request must specify the alternative means or location, and provide satisfactory explanation how payments will be handled under the alternative means or location you request.

Amendment: You have the right to 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.

Electronic Notice: If you receive this Notice on our Web site or by electronic mail (e-mail), you are entitled to receive this Notice in written form.

QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

If you want more information about our privacy practices or have questions concerns, please contact us.

If you are concerned that we may have violated your privacy rights, or if you disagree with a decision, we made about access to your health information or in response to a request you made to amend or restrict the use or disclosure of your health information or to have us communicate with you by alternative means or at alternative locations, you may complain to us using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. You also may submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will provide you with the address to file your complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request.

We support your right to the privacy of your health information. We will not retaliate in any way if you choose to file a complaint with us or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

HIPPA Officer: Dr Nidhi Gehlot
haverhill@caredentalassociates.com
62 Brown Street, Suite 504
Haverhill, MA 01830
Phone: 978-521-8477