

Patient's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities  
Section 381.026, Florida Statutes

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**A PATIENT HAS THE RIGHT TO:**

- Be treated with courtesy and respect, with appreciation of his/her dignity, and with protection of privacy.
- Receive a prompt and reasonable response to questions and requests.
- Know who is providing medical services and is responsible for his/her care.
- Know what patient support services are available, including if an interpreter is available if the patient does not speak English.
- Know what rules and regulations apply to his/her conduct.
- Be given by the health care provider information such as diagnosis, planned course of treatment, alternatives, risks and prognosis.
- Refuse any treatment, except as otherwise provided by law.
- Be given full information and necessary counseling on the availability of known financial resources for care.
- Know whether the health care provider or facility accepts the Medicare agreement rate, if the patient is covered by Medicare.
- Receive prior to treatment, a reasonable estimate of charges for medical care.
- Receive a copy of an understandable itemized bill and, if requested, to have the charges explained.
- Receive medical treatment or accommodations, regardless of race, national origin, religion, handicap, or source of payment.
- Know if medical treatment is for purposes of experimental research and to give his/her consent or refusal to participate in such research.
- Express complaints regarding any violation of his/her rights.

**A PATIENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:**

- Giving the health care provider accurate information about present complaints, past illnesses, hospitalizations, medications, and any other information about his/her health.
- Reporting unexpected changes in his/her condition to the health care provider.
- Reporting to the health care provider whether he/she understands a planned course of action and what is expected of him/her.
- Following the treatment plan recommended by the health care provider.
- Keeping appointments and, when unable to do so, notifying the health care provider or facility.
- His/her actions if treatment is refused or if the patient does not follow the health care provider's instructions.
- Making sure financial responsibilities are carried out.
- Following health care facility conduct rules and regulations.

**FILING COMPLAINTS**

If you have a complaint against an office-based facility or a health care professional, the complaint must be in writing and mailed to the address below:

**Florida Department of Health  
Consumer Services Unit  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-75  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3260  
Fax: 850.488.0796**

To obtain a copy of the complaint form, either call the telephone listed or go to the website below:  
**850.245.4339 [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/enforcement/enforce\\_csu.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/enforcement/enforce_csu.html)**

The Facial Rejuvenation Centre  
Deirdre Leake, MD  
Joni Collins Ricketts, PA-C



## NOTICE OF POLICY REGARDING ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

Advance directives **are not honored** at this facility and in the event of an emergency or life threatening situation, advanced cardiac life support procedures **will be instituted** in every instance and patients will be transferred to a higher level of care.



## FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

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We are committed to providing you with the best possible care and are pleased to discuss our professional fees with you at any time. Your clear understanding of our Financial Policy is important to our professional relationship. Please ask if you have any questions about our fees, financial policy or your financial responsibility.

A CURRENT GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTO ID AND CURRENT INSURANCE CARD (IF REQUESTING US TO BILL YOUR INSURANCE) MUST BE PRESENT AT INITIAL VISIT. FAILURE TO PROVIDE EITHER OF THESE MAY REQUIRE US TO RESCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT. IT IS OUR PRACTICE POLICY TO PHOTOCOPY YOUR INSURANCE CARD(S) FOR OUR FILES.

PATIENTS MUST FILL OUT PATIENT INFORMATION FORMS PRIOR TO SEEING THE PHYSICIAN.

### APPOINTMENTS

24 hours notice must be provided in the event you cannot keep an appointment. Should you not provide this notice, a cancellation fee of \$25 will be added to your account at the discretion of each office.

### REFERRALS

If your plan requires a referral from your primary care physician, it is YOUR responsibility to obtain it prior to your appointment and have it with you at the time of your visit. If you do not have your referral, we will reschedule your appointment.

### EXPECTED AMOUNT DUE

By law we MUST collect your carrier designated co-pay/co-insurance and/or deductible. This payment is expected at the time of service. Please be prepared to pay the expected amount due at each visit. We will not bill an insurance company if we do not have a copy of your current card and a valid photo ID at the time of visit. We bill primary and secondary insurances only, as a courtesy. If we are unable to verify your benefits, then you will be responsible for following up with your insurance.

### MEDICARE

We will submit claims to Medicare. The patient will be responsible for the deductible and the 20% co-insurance, which can be billed to a secondary insurance if you have one.

### OUT OF NETWORK PLANS

You will be responsible for any balance your plan indicates as due on their explanation of benefits form. We will adjust the charges to coincide with your plan's UCR (Usual, Customary and Reasonable) charges. All patients will be responsible for their co-pay, co-insurance and deductible. If we do not 'participate' with your plan, we will send a courtesy bill to that carrier on your behalf. However, should they not pay your claim within 45 days; you will be responsible for the full amount due. Should you receive payment from your insurance carrier, please forward it to the appropriate physician's office.

### SELF-PAY PATIENTS

Payment is expected at the time of service unless other financial arrangements have been made prior to your visit. All arrangements made for services will require an agreement signed by both patient and administrative staff. Failure to adhere to practice policy will result in collection proceedings.

### ENT PROCEDURE

Your insurance company requires that we bill our services to you using a coding system known as CPT (Current Procedural Terminology). Many codes that Otolaryngologists use to describe the service performed are found in the "surgery" section of the CPT code book. This does not mean that you had an operation. This is merely the way the CPT book is organized for ease of use by both the insurance companies and physicians. Your Insurance Company may cover the care rendered for "surgical" codes differently than for office visits. Therefore, your insurance explanation of benefits may reflect that the service was paid as a surgical procedure, with deductible and co-insurance guidelines applied. We encourage all of our patients to check with your insurance company and verify your benefits.

You are responsible for the timely payment of your account. Should it become necessary for us to use an outside agency to collect payment from you, you will be additionally responsible for whatever charges we incur as a result of this.

WE ACCEPT CASH, CHECKS, MASTERCARD, VISA, AMERICAN EXPRESS, DISCOVER CARD OR CARE CREDIT

THANK YOU for taking the time to review our policies. Please feel free to ask any questions or share with us special concerns.

Patient's Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible Party Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

## Your Information. Your Rights. Our Responsibilities.

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.**

### Your Rights

#### You have the right to:

- Get a copy of your paper or electronic medical record
- Correct your paper or electronic medical record
- Request confidential communication
- Ask us to limit the information we share
- Get a list of those with whom we've shared your information
- Get a copy of this privacy notice
- Choose someone to act for you
- File a complaint if you believe your privacy rights have been violated

➤ **See page 2** for more information on these rights and how to exercise them

### Your Choices

#### You have some choices in the way that we use and share information as we:

- Tell family and friends about your condition
- Provide disaster relief
- Include you in a hospital directory
- Provide mental health care
- Market our services and sell your information
- Raise funds

➤ **See page 3** for more information on these choices and how to exercise them

### Our Uses and Disclosures

#### We may use and share your information as we:

- Treat you
- Run our organization
- Bill for your services
- Help with public health and safety issues
- Do research
- Comply with the law
- Respond to organ and tissue donation requests
- Work with a medical examiner or funeral director
- Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests
- Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

➤ **See pages 3 and 4** for more information on these uses and disclosures

## Your Rights

### When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights.

This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

#### Get 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.

#### Get 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 those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We’ll provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

#### Get 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

- You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us using the information on page 1.
- You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for 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/](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/).
- We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

## 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
- Include your information in a hospital directory

*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 sharing of psychotherapy notes

**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 use or share your health information?

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

**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:** We use health information about you to manage your treatment and services.

**Bill for your services**

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

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

*continued on next page*

**How else can we use or 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 see: [www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html).

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**Help with public health and safety issues**

- 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
    - Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone’s health or safety
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**Do research**

- We can use or share your information for health research.
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**Comply with the law**

- We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we’re complying with federal privacy law.
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**Respond to organ and tissue donation requests**

- We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.
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**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.
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**Address workers’ compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests**

- We can use or 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
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**Respond to lawsuits and legal actions**

- We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.
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## Our Responsibilities

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- 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.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information see: [www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html).

## Changes to the Terms of this Notice

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, in our office, and on our web site.

**This Notice of Privacy Practices applies to the following organizations.**