

## **Notice of Privacy Practices**

Our practice is committed to educating our patients about the health care issues that affect them. As a result, we are providing you with the general information about the Privacy Ruler, a federal regulation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA) along with a brief overview of our Notice of Privacy. We are complying with HIPPA's regulations.

What is HIPPA and how does the Privacy Rule affect you?

When HIPPA was passed in August 1996 this gave the federal government the ability to mandate how healthcare plans, providers and agencies send a patient's personal information as it relates to healthcare. The Privacy Rule was created to protect your rights as a patient of our practice and we are required by law to be compliant with this regulation. Under this rule you are guaranteed access to your medical records, allowed control over how your protected health information is used and disclosed and allowed to take action if your privacy is compromised by following the practice's policy. Our practice is dedicated to maintaining the privacy of your personal information.

What is Individually Identifiable Health Information (IIHI)?

Any health information you provide our practice, including your mailing/email address. Information that is created and retained by our practice or received by another healthcare provider that relates to treatment, payment, and/or identifies you as an individual.

What is the Notice of Privacy Practice (NPP)?

Our practice has an official Notice of Privacy Practice informing our patients about their rights surrounding the protection of your IIHI and our obligations concerning the use and disclosure of your IIHI. This notice applies to all records created or retained by our practice. We can update this NPP at any time. You may ask for a current copy.

The following categories describe the different ways in which we may use or disclose your IHII:

Treatment	Payment	Appointment Reminders	
Treatment Options	Disclosures Required by Law	Health Care Operations	
Health Related Benefits	Hearing Aid Companies/Business Associates	Health Care Services	

The following categories describe unique situations in which we may use or disclose your IHHI?

Public Health Risks/Abuse	Health Activities	Lawsuits	Law Enforcement
Deceased Patients	Workers Compensation	Serious threats to safety	Research
Military	National Security/FDA	Organ/Tissue Donation	Data Breach Notifications

You have rights regarding your IIHI. In our Notice of Privacy you can view the policies and procedures regarding:

- Confidential communications
- 2. Requesting Restrictions
- 3. Inspection and Copies
- 4. Amendment
- 5. Accounting of Disclosures
- 6. Right to a Paper Copy of this Notice
- 7. Right to File a Complaint
- 8. Right to Provide an Authorization for Other Use and Disclosures

I have read the notice provided by Rocky Mountain Audiology and have been informed of how to obtain more information regarding our Notice of Privacy.

Signature/2013	Printed name of Patient
Signature/Follow up visit	Printed name of Patient
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