



HIPAA Business Associate Agreement

For ALL Business Associates, Vendors and Company Employees that Access and Service

This Agreement (“Agreement”) is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 201____, by and Between _____ collectively or any one individually hereinafter “Covered Entity”), and _____ and affiliated companies (collectively “Business Associate”).

This Agreement constitutes an Addendum to any prior Business Agreement(s) between the Covered Entity and the Business Associate and is merged with the prior Business Agreement; however, this Agreement supersedes all prior Business Associate Agreements between the Parties or any written and oral understandings, agreements, proposals, promises and representations of the Parties respecting any and all subject matter contained in this Agreement.

Section 1. Definitions: Terms used, but not otherwise defined, in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as those terms in the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR part 160 and part 164, subparts A and E (“the Privacy Rule”).

Section 2. Obligations and Activities of Business Associate:

- a) Business Associate agrees to not use or disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by the Agreement or as required by law.
- b) Business Associate agrees to use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information other than as provided for by this Agreement.
- c) Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement.
- d) Business Associate agrees to report to Practice any use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information not provided for by this Agreement of which it becomes aware.
- e) Business Associate agrees to ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of the Practice agrees to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- f) Business Associate agrees to provide access, at the request of Practice, and in the time and manner not to exceed 72 hours, to Protected Health Information in a designated record set, to Practice or, as directed by Practice, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR 164.524.
- g) Business Associate agrees to make any amendment(s) to Protected Health Information in a designated record set that Practice directs or agrees to pursuant to 45 CFR 164.526 at the request of Practice or an Individual, within 72 hours of receipt of such amendment(s).
- h) Business Associate agrees to make internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures and Protected Health Information, relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Practice available to Practice, or to the secretary or person designated by the secretary, if permissible or required by law, within 72 hours of receiving the request, for purposes of the secretary determining Practice’s compliance with the Privacy Rule.
- i) Business Associate agrees to document such disclosures of Protected Health Information and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Practice to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 CFR 164.528.
- j) Business Associate agrees to provide to Practice or an Individual, within 72 hours, information collected in accordance with this Agreement and the Privacy Rule, to permit Practice to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 CFR 164.528.
- k) Section 3. Permitted General Uses and Disclosures by Business Associate:
- l) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use or disclose Protected Health Information to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Practice as specified in the Agreement giving rise to the Business Associate relationship, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule if done by Practice or the minimum necessary policies and procedures of Practice.

Section 4. Permitted Specific Uses and Disclosures by Business Associate:

- a) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of Business Associate.
- b) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may disclose Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of Business Associate, provided that disclosures are required by law, or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is disclosed that it will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.
- c) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information to provide Data Aggregation services to Practice as permitted by 42 CFR 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B).
- d) Business Associate may use Protected Health Information to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities, consistent with Sec. 164.502(j)(1).

Section 5. Obligations of Practice:

- a) Practice shall notify Business Associate of any limitation(s) in Practice’s Notice of Privacy Practices in accordance with 45 CFR 164.520, to the extent that such limitation may affect Business Associate’s use or disclosure of Protected Health Information.
- b) Practice shall notify Business Associate of any changes in, or revocation of, permission by an Individual to use or disclose Protected Health Information, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate’s use or disclosure of Protected Health Information.
- c) Practice shall notify Business Associate of any restriction in the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information that Practice has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate’s use or disclosure of Protected Health Information.

Section 6. Permissible Requests by Practice:

Practice shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose Protected Health Information in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule if done by Practice; provided, however, this shall not preclude Business Associate from use or disclosure of Protected Health Information for data aggregation or management and administrative activities of Business Associate.

Section 7. Term and Termination:

- a) Term-this Agreement shall be effective as of the Effective Date and shall terminate when all of the Protected Health Information provided by Practice to Business Associate, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Practice, is destroyed or returned to Practice, or, if it is infeasible to return or destroy Protected Health Information, protections are extended to such information, in accordance with the termination provisions in this Section.
- b) Termination-for cause upon Practice’s knowledge of a material breach by Business Associate, Practice shall either:
 - 1. Provide an opportunity for Business Associate to cure the breach or end the violation and terminate this Agreement and the Agreement giving rise to the Business Associate relationship if Business Associate does not cure the breach or end the violation within 10 days of receiving notice of any breach;
 - 2. Immediately terminate this Agreement and the Agreement giving rise to the Business Associate relationship if Business Associate has breached a material term of this Agreement and cure is not possible; or
- c) If neither termination nor cure are feasible, Practice shall report the violation to the Secretary.
- d) Effect of Termination.
 - 1. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this section, upon termination of this Agreement, for any reason, Business Associate shall return or destroy all Protected Health Information received from Practice, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Practice unless precluded by law from doing so. This provision shall apply to Protected Health Information that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the Protected Health Information if not precluded by law.
 - 2. In the event Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall provide to Practice notification of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. If return or destruction of Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Agreement to such Protected Health Information and limit further uses and disclosures of such Protected Health Information to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such Protected Health Information.

Section 8. Construction:

- a) Regulatory References-a reference in this Agreement to a section in the Privacy Rule means the section as in effect or as amended.
- b) Amendment-the parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement from time to time as is necessary for Practice to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191.
- c) Survival-the respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Sections 2 and 5 of this Agreement shall survive the termination of this Agreement.
- d) Interpretation-any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved to permit Practice to comply with the Privacy Rule.
- e) Indemnification-Business Associate covenants and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Practice, its employees, officers, shareholders, members, and employees from and against any liability, loss, damages, cost or expense (including court costs and attorneys’ fees) arising from or in any manner connected with Business Associate’s (i) breach of any term or provision of this Agreement, (ii) acts or omissions, or (iii) improper use or disclosure of Protected Health Information relating to Practice’s patients. This indemnification provision shall expressly survive termination of this Agreement.
- f) General-law governing this Agreement: This Agreement contains the entire agreement and understanding between the parties. This Agreement may be modified only by a written amendment signed by both parties and may be waived only by a writing signed by the party to be bound by the waiver. This Agreement may not be assigned by Business Associate without Practice’s consent. Practice may assign this Agreement to any entity with which it engages in a fundamental corporate transaction.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto, intending to be legally bound hereby, have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED BY:

For Covered Entity

For _____ and affiliated entities

Printed Name

Printed Name

Signature

Signature

Date

Date