

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES FOR Cheryl E. McDonough, DMD, APC.

This notice describes how health information about you may be used and disclosed, and how you can get access to this information.

Please review this document carefully.

Uses and disclosure of your health information:

Treatment – Your health information may be used by staff members or disclosed to other health care professionals for the purpose of evaluating your health, diagnosing health conditions, and providing treatment. For example, results of laboratory tests and procedures will be available in your medical record to all health professionals who may provide treatment or who may be consulted by staff members.

Payment – Your health information may be used to seek payment from your health plan. For example, your health plan may request and receive information on dates of service, the services provided and medical condition being treated.

Health Care Operations – Your health information may be used as necessary to support the day-to-day activities and management of Cheryl E. McDonough, DMD, APC. For example, information on the services you received may be used to support budgeting and financial reporting, and activities to evaluate and promote quality.

Law enforcement – Your health information may be disclosed to law enforcement agencies as required by law, without your permission, to support government audits and inspections, to facilitate law-enforcement investigations, and to comply with government mandated reporting.

Public health reporting – Your health information may be disclosed to the public health agencies as required by law. For example, we are required to report certain communicable diseases to the state's public health department. Other uses and disclosures require your authorization. Disclosure of your health information or its use for any other purpose than those listed above requires your specific written authorization. If you change your mind after authorizing a use or disclosure of your information you may submit a written revocation of the authorization. However, your decision to revoke the authorization will not affect or undo any use or disclosure of information that occurred before you notified us of your decision.

Additional uses of information include:

Appointment reminders – Your health information will be used by our staff to send you appointment reminders.

Information about treatments – Your health information may be used to send you information on the treatment and management of your health condition that you may find of interest. We may also send you information describing other health related goods and services we believe may interest you.

Your Individual Rights – You have certain rights under the federal privacy standards. These include:

The right to request restrictions on the use and disclosure of your protected health information.

The right to receive confidential communications concerning your health condition and treatment.

The right to inspect and copy your protected health information

The right to amend or submit corrections to your protected health information.

The right to receive an accounting of how and to whom your protected health information has been disclosed.

The right to receive a printed copy of this notice.

Cheryl E. McDonough, DMD, APC's Duties – We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information and to provide you with this notice of privacy practices. We are also required to abide by the privacy policies and practices that are outlined in this notice.

Right to revise privacy practices – As permitted by law, we reserve the right to amend or modify our privacy policies and practices. These changes in our policies and practices may be required by changes in federal and state laws and regulations. Whatever the reasons for these revisions, we will provide you with a revised notice on your next office visit. The revised policies and practices will be applied to all protected health information that we maintain.

Requests to inspect protected health information – As permitted by federal regulation, we require that requests to inspect or copy protected health information be submitted in writing. You may obtain a form to request access to your records by contacting Cheryl E. McDonough, DMD, APC.

Complaints – If you would like to submit a comment or complaint about our privacy practices, you can do so by sending a letter outlining your concerns to: Cheryl E. McDonough, DMD, APC 67 Via Pico Plaza San Clemente, CA 92672. If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you should call the matter to our attention by sending a letter describing the cause of your concern to the same address. You will not be penalized, or otherwise retaliated against for filing a complaint.

You can contact Cheryl E. McDonough, DMD, APC for further information concerning our privacy practices.

Effective date – This notice is effective on or after February 10, 2010.