



## Notice of Privacy Practices

### 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 protected health information (PHI) is information about you, including demographic information that may identify you and relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition and related health care services. Your PHI is protected by state and/or federal law and regulations. Windrose Recovery is required to comply with these additional restrictions.

### Your Rights

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:

Windrose Recovery  
13850 W. Capitol Drive  
Brookfield, WI 53005  
414-930-1914

- 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

*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

## Uses and Disclosures

### *How we may use and disclose health information about you:*

- **For treatment.** We may use medical and clinical information about you to provide you with treatment or services, coordinating care or managing your treatment. If you are a substance abuse client, we may disclose PHI to other providers after obtaining your authorization. If you are a mental health client, we may coordinate your care with other providers without authorizations. For example, Windrose Recovery may need to request a list of your current medications prescribed by your primary care physician.
- **For payment.** With your authorization, we may use and disclose protected health information about you so that we can receive payment for the treatment services provided to you. Examples of payment-related activities are: making a determination of eligibility or coverage for insurance benefits, processing claims with your insurance company, reviewing services provided to you to determine medical necessity, or undertaking utilization review activities. If it becomes necessary to use collection processes due to lack of payment for services, we will only disclose the minimum amount of PHI necessary for purposes of collection.
- **For health care operations.** We may use and disclose your protected health information for certain purposes in connection with the operation of our program, including, but not limited to, quality assessment activities, employee review activities, licensing and conducting or arranging for other business activities. For example, we may share your PHI with third parties that perform various business activities (e.g., billing or typing services) provided we have a written contract with the business that requires it to safeguard the privacy of your PHI.
- **Required by law.** Under the law, we must disclose your PHI to you upon your request. In addition, we must make disclosures to the Department of Health Services for the purpose of investigating or determining our compliance with the regulations.
- **Without authorization.** Applicable law also permits us to disclose information about you without your authorization in a limited number of other situations, such as with a court order. These situations are explained below.
- **Health oversight.** We may disclose PHI to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law, such as for audits, investigations and inspections. Oversight agencies seeking this information include government agencies and organizations that provide financial assistance to the program (such as third party payors) and peer review organizations performing utilization and quality control. If we disclose PHI for substance abuse clients to a health oversight agency, we will have an agreement in place that requires the agency to safeguard the privacy of your information.
- **Public health.** We may disclose your PHI for public health activities to a public health authority authorized by law to collect or receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling

disease, injury, or disability, or if directed by a public health authority, to a government agency that is collaborating with that public health authority. In certain circumstances outlined in the privacy regulations, we may disclose your PHI to a person who is subject to the jurisdiction of the Food and Drug Administration with respect to the reporting of certain occurrences involving food, drugs or other products distributed by such person. In certain limited circumstances, we may also disclose your PHI to a person that may have been exposed to a communicable disease or may otherwise be at risk of spreading or contracting such disease, if such disease is authorized by law. For example, we may disclose PHI regarding the fact that you have contracted a certain communicable disease to a public health authority authorized by law to collect or receive such information.

- **Medical emergencies.** We may use or disclose your protected health information in a medical emergency situation to medical personnel only and as legally permissible if you are a substance abuse client. Windrose Recovery can disclose your information in a medical emergency.
- **Mandated Reporting.** We may use your protected health information in order to comply with rules and regulations mandating Windrose Recovery staff to report to law enforcement or government agencies. Examples of situations where reporting may be necessary include abuse and neglect, FOID reporting to DHS, and duty to warn situations. Duty to warn situations occur when someone indicates a specific act of violence towards themselves or another individual.
- **Deceased client.** We may disclose PHI regarding deceased clients for the purpose of determining the cause of death, in connection with laws requiring the collection of death or other vital statistics or permitting inquiry into the cause of death.
- **Court order.** We may disclose your PHI if the court issues an appropriate order and follows required procedures.
- **Law Enforcement.** We may disclose your PHI for law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
- **Government functions.** If you are an active military member or veteran, we may disclose your PHI as required by military command authorities. We may disclose your PHI to authorized federal officials for national security and intelligence reasons and to the Department of State for medical suitability determinations.
- **With authorization.** We must obtain written authorization from you for all other uses and disclosures of your PHI.

## Our Responsibilities

- 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.

If you have any questions about this Notice of Privacy Practices, please contact our privacy officer:

Windrose Recovery  
13850 W. Capitol Drive  
Brookfield, WI 53005  
414-930-1914

*Effective Date: November 1, 2020*