

HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

Dr. Lemke and Dr. Mehandru

1706 Beall Ave.
Wooster, OH 44691

750 E. Washington St
Medina, OH 44256

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW DENTAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY. YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT TO US.

Our Legal Duty

We are required by applicable federal and state laws to maintain the privacy of your health information. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect 04/14/03 and will remain in effect until we replace it. We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law. We reserve the right to make changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our Notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we made the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and the new Notice available upon request.

Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information

Your protected health information may be used and disclosed by your dentist, our office, and others outside of our office that are involved in your care and treatment for the purpose of providing health care services to you, to pay your health care bills to support the operation of the dentist's practice and any other use required by law.

Treatment: We will use and disclose your protected health information to provide, coordinate, or manage your health care and any related services. This includes the coordination or management of your health care with a third party. For example, we would disclose your protected health information, as necessary, to a home health agency that provides care to you. For example, your protected health care information may be provided to a specialist to whom you have been referred to ensure that the specialist has the necessary information to diagnose or treat you.

Payment: Your protected health information will be used, as needed, to obtain payment for your medical care services. For example, obtaining approval for a dental treatment or hospital stay may require that your relevant protected health information be disclosed to the medical to obtain approval for a dental treatment or hospital admission.

Healthcare Operations: We may use or disclose, as needed, your protected health information in order to support the business activities of your dentist's practice. These activities include, but are not limited to, quality assessment activities, employee review activities, training of medical students, licensing, and conducting or arranging for other business activities. For example, we may disclose your protected health information to medical school students that see patients at our office. In addition, we may use a sign-in sheet at the registration desk where you will be asked to sign your name and indicate your dentist. We may also call you by name in the waiting room when your dentist is ready to see you.

We may use or disclose your protected health information, as necessary, to contact you to remind you of your appointment. We may use or disclose your protected health information in the following situations without your authorization. These situations include: as Required By Law, Public Health issues as required by law, Communicable Diseases, Health Oversight, Abuse or Neglect, Food and Drug Administration requirements, Legal Proceedings, Law Enforcement, Coroners, Funeral Directors, and Organ Donation, Research, Criminal Activity, Military Activity and National Security, Worker's Compensation, Inmates, Required Uses and Disclosures. Under the law, we must make disclosures to you and when required by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to investigate or determine our compliance with the requirements of Section 164.500.

Other Permitted and Required Uses and Disclosures Will Be Made Only With Your Consent, Authorization or Opportunity to Object unless required by law.

You may revoke this authorization, at any time, in writing, except to the extent that your dentist or the dentist's practice has taken an action in reliance on the use or disclosure indicated in the authorization.

Patient Rights:

Following is a statement of your rights with respect to your professional health information. You have the right to inspect and copy your protected health information. Under federal law, however, you may not inspect or copy the following records: psychotherapy notes, information compiled in reasonable anticipation of, or use in, a civil, criminal, or administrative action of proceeding, and protected health information that is subject to law that prohibits access to protected health information.

You have the right to request a restriction of your protected health information. This means you may ask us not to use or disclose any part of your protected health information for the purposes of treatment, payment or healthcare operations. You may also request that any part of your protected health information not be disclosed to family members or friends who may be involved in your care or for notification purposes as described in this Notice of Privacy Practices. Your request must state the specific restriction requested and to whom you want that restriction to apply.

Your dentist is not required to agree to a restriction that you may request. If the dentist believes it is in your best interest to permit use and disclosure of your protected health information, your protected health information will not be restricted. You then have the right to use another health care professional.

You have the right to request to receive confidential communication from us by alternative means or at an alternative location.

You have the right to obtain a paper copy of this notice from us, upon request, even if you have agreed to accept this notice alternatively i.e. electronically.

You may have the right to have your dentist amend your protected health information. If we deny your request for amendment, you have the right to file a statement of disagreement with us and we may prepare a rebuttal to your statement and will provide you a copy of any such rebuttal.

You have the right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures we have made, if any, of your protected health information.

We reserve the right to change the terms of this notice and will inform you by mail of any charges. You then have the right to object or withdraw as provided in this notice.

Questions and Complaints:

If you want more information about our privacy practices or have questions or concerns, please contact us. If you are concerned that we may have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about your access to your health information or in response to a request you made or restrict the use or disclosure of your health information or to have us communicate with you by alternative means or at alternative locations, you may complain to us using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. You may also submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will provide you with the address to file your complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request.

We support your right to the privacy of your health information. We will not retaliate in any way if you choose to file a complaint with us or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Contact the Office:

Dr. Lemke and Dr. Mehandru
Telephone: 330-264-5851
Fax:330-264-5027
Address:
1706 Beall Avenue
Wooster, OH 44691
750 E. Washington St.
Medina, OH 44256

THIS IS YOUR COPY TO KEEP. PLEASE SIGN SEPARATE SIGNATURE PAGE AND RETURN TO OUR OFFICE.