
David W. Larsen D.M.D. / Larsen Dental

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION.

PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT TO US.

Our Legal Duty: We are required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your health information. We take this responsibility seriously. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practice, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practice that are described in this Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect April 15, 2003, 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 the 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 and received before we made the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and make the new Notice available upon request.

You may request a copy of our Notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this Notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice.

USES AND DISCLOSURE OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION

We may use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment and healthcare operations. For example:

Another Healthcare Provider Who May Provide You Treatment Or a Dental Laboratory: We may use or disclose your health information to a physician, another dental provider, or another healthcare provider who may provide treatment to you. This most often happens in the form of a referral to a dental specialist for consultation or treatment. This may also happen in the form of transferring your records to a new dental provider. Your dental radiographs are the most common requested health information requested by a specialist or subsequent provider. We may choose not to use a formal encryption or password-required platforms to transfer radiographs. This means a third-party such as an internet, email, text, or phone provider or other individual theoretically could have access to your dental radiographs. Similarly, for dental laboratory correspondence we may choose not to use a formal encryption or password -required platform to transfer lab related information such as lab prescriptions, pictures, scans, impressions, models.

Payment: We may use and disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide to you. This most often happens in working with your dental insurance company to collect payment in your behalf. This may also happen in the form of working with an outside collection agency to collect an overdue balance.

Healthcare Operations: We may use and disclose your health information in connection with our healthcare operations. Healthcare operations include quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the competence of qualifications of healthcare professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities. Healthcare operations also includes working with our business associates including computer support vendors, dental software support vendors, patient communication vendors, and other technology vendors.

Your Authorization: In addition to our use of your health information for treatment, payment or healthcare operations, you may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice.

To Your Family and Friends: We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the Patient Rights section of this Notice. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend or other person to the extent necessary to help with your healthcare, with payment for your healthcare, or with scheduling your appointments.

Persons Involved In Care: We may use or disclose health information to notify, or assist in the notification of (including identifying or locating) a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of your location, your general condition, or death. If you are present, then prior to use or disclosure of your health information, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to such uses or disclosure. In the event of your incapacity or emergency circumstances, we will disclose health information based a determination using our profession judgment disclosing only health information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your healthcare. We will also use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of health information.

Education and Marketing Health-Related Services: We may use radiographs, models, and isolated intraoral and extraoral pictures for education, dental study groups, patient education, and marketing purposes to the extent that they do not specifically identify you and that your identity remains anonymous. We may use pictures, models, or radiographs of your teeth and/or your lips but not to show your nose, eyes or other facial features for educational or marketing purposes.

As Required by Law: We may use or disclose your health information when we are required to do so by law.

Abuse or Neglect: We may disclose your health information to appropriate authorities if we reasonably believe that you are a possible victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence or the possible victim of other crimes. We may disclose your health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of others.

National Security: We may disclose to military authorities the health information of Armed Forces personnel under certain circumstances. We may disclose to authorized federal officials health information required for lawful intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities. We may disclose to correctional institution or law enforcement official having lawful custody of protected health information of inmate or patient under certain circumstances.

Appointment Reminders: We may use or disclose your health information to provide you with appointment reminders through such mediums as voicemail messages, postcards, letters, emails, or texts. For appointment reminders, we may choose not to use a formal encryption or password-required platforms to notify or remind you of upcoming appointments. This means a third-party such as an internet, email, text, or phone provider theoretically could have access to your appointment reminders. Additional information such as medications needed to be taken prior to the appointment may be included in these communications as well.

Patient Rights

Access: You have the right to look at or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies. We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so. (You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. You may obtain a form to request access by the using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. We may charge you a reasonable cost-based fee for expenses such a copies and staff time. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this Notice. If you request copies, we may charge you \$0.50 for each page, \$10.00 per hour for staff time to locate and copy your health information, and postage if you want the copies mailed to you. If you request an alternative format, we may charge a cost-based fee for providing your health information in that format. If you prefer, we will prepare a summary or an explanation of your health information for a fee. Contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.)

Disclosure Accounting: You have the right to receive a list of instances in which we or our business associates disclosed your health information for purposes, other than treatment, payment, healthcare operations and certain other activities, for the last 6 years, but not before April 14, 2003. If you request this accounting more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests.

Restriction: You have the right to request in written form that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. We are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in an emergency).

Alternative Communication: You have the right to request that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. (You must make your request in writing.) Your request must specify the alternative means or location, and provide satisfactory explanation how payments will be handled under the alternative means or location you request.

Amendment: You have the right to request that we amend your health information. (Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why the information should be amended.) We may deny your request under certain circumstances.

QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

If you want more information about or 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 access to your health information or in response to a request you made to amend or restrict the used 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 also may 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 Officer: Dr. David Larsen

Telephone: 970-242-2717

Address: 1655 North 1st Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501