

Crescent Street OBGYN LLC

Frequently Asked Questions about Your HIPAA Rights:

1. **What is “HIPAA”?**

Answer: “HIPAA” refers to a new set of regulations adopted by the Federal Government. They are designed to protect the privacy of information about you in your medical records. These new Privacy Regulations went into effect April 14, 2003.

2. **What is the “Notice of Privacy Practices”?**

Answer: The Notice of Privacy Practices tells you what your new rights are under the HIPAA Privacy Regulations. It tells you how we will handle your confidential medical information. It also tells you about your right to amend your medical record and gain access to it, as well as other rights.

3. **Why do I have to sign the “Written Acknowledgement”?**

Answer: Actually, you do not have to sign it, but it would sure help us if you did! We are required to offer you a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices. The purpose of the Written Acknowledgement is to create a paper record of the fact that we have given you a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices. The Privacy Regulations require us to ask you to sign the Written Acknowledgement. We only need to have you sign it this one time.

4. **Can Crescent Street OBGYN disclose any of my medical information without my authorization?**

Answer: Yes. Under the Privacy Regulations, we are still allowed to use and disclose your medical information for the following purposes without asking for an Authorization from you:

- Treatment, payment and healthcare operations
- As required by law
- To persons involved in your care or for notification purposes
- Public health activities
- Reporting Victims of Abuse, Neglect or Domestic Violence
- Health oversight activities

- Judicial and administrative proceedings
- Law enforcement
- To coroners, medical examiners and funeral directors
- To organ procurement organizations
- For certain, limited research purposes
- To avert a serious threat to health or safety
- To military command authorities if you are a member of the armed forces
- For National security activities
- To correctional institutions if you are an inmate
- Workers' compensation
- Disaster relief
- Appointment reminders
- To inform you of treatment alternatives and health-related benefits and services
- To business associates of Crescent Street OBGYN who need your medical information to provide services to us

Your Authorization is required for all other uses and disclosures of your protected health information.

5. Can I take the Notice of Privacy Practices home, or do I have to read it now?

Answer: It is yours to take home and read.