

MONTES MEDICAL GROUP, INC.

Notice of Privacy Practices

This notice describes how your health information may be used and disclosed and how you can access information. Please review it carefully.

At Montes Medical Group, Inc., we always keep your health information secure and confidential. A new law requires us to continue maintaining your privacy, to give you this notice and to follow the terms of this notice.

The law permits us to use or disclose your health information for payment of your services. For example, we may send a report of your progress to your insurance company.

We may use or disclose your health information for our normal healthcare operations. For example, one of our staff will enter your information into our computer.

We may share your medical information with our business associates, such as a billing service. We have a written contract with each business associate that requires them to protect your privacy.

We may use your information to contact you. For example, we may send newsletters or other information to your mailing address. We may also want to call and remind you about appointments. If you are not home, we may leave this information on your answering machine or with the person who answers the phone.

In an emergency, we may disclose your health information to a family member or another person responsible for your care.

We may use and disclose medical information about you by having you sign in when you arrive at our office. We may also call out your name when we are ready to see you.

We may release some or all of your health information when required by law.

If this practice is sold, your information will become the property of the new owner.

Except as described above, this practice will not use or disclose your health information without your prior written authorization.

You may request in writing that we not use or disclose your health information as described above. We will let you know if we can fulfill your request.

You have the right to transfer copies of your health information to another practice. We will mail your files for you.

You have the right to see and receive a copy of your health information with a few exceptions. Give us a written request regarding the information you want to see. If you also want a copy of your records, we may charge you a reasonable fee for the copies.

You have the right to request an amendment or change to your health information. Give us your request to make changes in writing. If you wish to include a statement in your file, please give it to us in writing. We may or may not make the changes you request, but we are happy to include your statement in your file. If we agree to an amendment or change, we will not remove or alter earlier documents, but will add new information. You have the right to receive a copy of this notice. It will be supplied upon your request.

If we change any of the details of this notice, we will notify you of the changes in writing.

You may file a complaint with the Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave., S.W., Room 509F, Washington, DC 20201. You will not be retaliated against for filing a complaint.

However, before filing a complaint, or for more information or assistance regarding your health information privacy, please contact our Privacy Officer, Emily Montes, at (310) 419-4354.

This notice goes into effect as of April 14, 2003.