



## Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information

Effective Date: 07/01/2021

**THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED & HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY.**

The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders (CCBD) provides each of its patients with a Notice of Privacy Practices (NPP) that is written in plain language and that contains the elements required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Regulations.

CCBD is committed to protecting its patients' personal and health information. Additionally, both federal and state laws require CCBD to maintain the privacy of patient personal health information. This Notice explains CCBD's privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your personal and health information. In this Notice, your personal or protected health information (PHI) is referred to as "healthcare information" and includes information about your health treatment and care when it contains identifiable information such as your name, age, address, income, and other financial information.

CCBD is permitted by federal privacy laws to make uses and disclosures of your health information for purposes of treatment, payment, and healthcare operations. Protected healthcare information is the information we create and obtain in providing our services to you. Such information may include documenting your symptoms, examination and test results, diagnoses, treatment, and applying for future care or treatment. It also includes billing documents for those services. Examples related to treatment, payment, and healthcare operations are listed below.

**Use of your health information for treatment purposes:**

- A nurse obtains treatment information about you and records it in a health record.
- During the course of your treatment, the physician determines he/she will need to consult with another specialist. He/she will share the information with such a specialist and obtain his/her input.

**Use of your health information for payment purposes:**

- CCBD submits requests for payment to your health insurance company. The health insurance company or business associate helping CCBD obtains payment requests information from us regarding your medical care given. CCBD will provide information to them about you and the care given.

**Use of your information for healthcare operations:**

- CCBD may obtain services from business associates such as quality assessment, quality improvement, outcome evaluation, protocol and clinical guidelines development, training programs, credentialing, medical review, legal services, and insurance. CCBD will share information about you with such business associates as necessary to obtain these services.

### Your Health Information Rights

The health and billing records we maintain are the physical property of CCBD. You have the following rights with respect to your protected healthcare information:

**Right to Inspect and/or Obtain Copy**

You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of your completed health records unless your doctor believes that disclosure of that information to you could harm you. Your request to inspect or obtain a copy of the records must be submitted in writing, signed and dated, to the medical records department of the CCBD facility that maintains the

records. (Requests for billing records should be sent to the billing departments.) We may charge a fee for processing your request. If CCBBD denies your request to inspect or obtain a copy of the records, you may appeal the denial in writing to the OneOncology Office of Compliance at the following address: 424 Church Street, Suite 2400, Nashville, TN 37219.

### **Right to Request an Amendment**

If you feel that health information CCBBD has about you is incorrect or incomplete, you have the right to ask us to amend your medical records. Your request for an amendment must be in writing, signed, and dated. It must specify the records you wish to amend, identify the CCBBD facility that maintains those records, and give the reason for your request. You must address your request to the Compliance Department at 424 Church Street, Suite 2400, Nashville, TN 37219 or to the CCBBD facility that maintains the records you wish to amend. CCBBD will respond to you within 60 days. We may deny your request; if we do, we will tell you why and explain your options.

### **Right to an Accounting of Disclosures**

You may request an accounting, which is a listing of the entities or persons (other than yourself) to whom CCBBD has disclosed your health information without your written authorization. The accounting would not include disclosures for treatment, payment, healthcare operations, and certain other disclosures exempted by law. Your request for an accounting of disclosures must be in writing, signed, and dated. It must identify the time period of the disclosures and the CCBBD facility that maintains the records about which you are requesting the accounting. We will not list disclosures made earlier than six (6) years before your request. Your request should indicate the form in which you want the list (for example, paper or electronically). You must submit your written request to the medical records department. We will respond to you within sixty (60) days. We will give you the first listing within any 12-month period free of charge, but we will charge you for all other accountings requested within the same 12-months.

### **Right to Breach Notification**

In the event of any breach of unsecured PHI, CCBBD shall fully comply with HIPAA/HITECH breach notification requirements, including notification to you of any impact that the breach may have had on you and/or your family member(s) and actions CCBBD undertook to minimize any impact the breach may have had on you.

### **Right to Request Restrictions**

You have the right to request a restriction or limitation on the medical information we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment, or healthcare operations. Unless otherwise required by law, you have a right to restrict certain health information disclosures to health insurers if you pay full cost of services at the time of your visit. To request a restriction, you must make your request in writing to the CCBBD facility that maintains the records or the Compliance Department located at 424 Church Street, Suite 2400, Nashville, TN 37219. In your request, you must tell us what information you want to limit, whether you want to limit our use, disclosure, or both, and to whom you want the limits to apply, for example, disclosures to your spouse. All requests will be reviewed for consideration of acceptance, therefore, you will not receive immediate response to your request. Every effort will be made to provide you a response to your request within thirty (30) days.

### **Right to Request Confidential Communications**

You have the right to request that we communicate with you about medical matters in a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you can ask that we only contact you at work or by mail. To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing to the Compliance Department located at 424 Church Street, Suite 2400, Nashville, TN 37219. We will not ask you the reason for your request. CCBBD will accommodate all reasonable requests. Your request must specify how or where you wish to be contacted.

### **Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice**

You have the right to a paper copy of this Notice. You may ask us to give you a copy of this Notice at any time. Even if you have agreed to receive this Notice electronically, you are still entitled to a paper copy. You may obtain a paper copy of this Notice at any of our facilities or by calling (817) 759-7000. You also can view this Notice at our website [www.thecenter.tx.com](http://www.thecenter.tx.com).

### **Personal Representative**

Your "personal representative" may exercise the rights listed above on your behalf if under an applicable law, that person has legal authority to act on your behalf in making decisions related to healthcare.

## **How CCBBD Protects Your Health Information**

CCBD is required to:

- Maintain the privacy of your health information as required by law;
- Provide you with a notice as to our duties and privacy practices as to the information we collect and maintain about you;
- Abide by the terms of this Notice;
- Notify you if we cannot accommodate a requested restriction or request;
- Accommodate your reasonable requests regarding methods to communicate health information with you; and
- Accommodate your request for an accounting of disclosures.

CCBD reserves the right to amend, change, or eliminate provisions in our privacy practices and access practices and to enact new provisions regarding the PHI we maintain. If our information practices change, we will amend our Notice. You are entitled to receive a revised copy of the Notice by calling and requesting a copy of our Notice or by visiting one of our offices and picking up a copy. New policies will be posted in the waiting room as well as on our website at [www.thecentertx.com](http://www.thecentertx.com).

### **Request Information or File a Complaint**

If you have questions, would like additional information, or want to report a problem regarding the handling of your healthcare information, you may contact:

<b>OneOncology</b>  <i>Attn: VP of Compliance</i> <i>424 Church Street</i> <i>Suite 2400</i> <i>Nashville, TN 37219</i>	<b>1.615.880.8479</b>
	<b>complianceandprivacy@oneoncology.com</b>

Additionally, if you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a written complaint at the address above, ATTN: VP of Compliance. You may also file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at:

*Office for Civil Rights*  
*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 200*  
*Independence Avenue, SW*  
*Room 509F, HHH Building*  
*Washington, D.C. 20201*  
*(800) 368-1019 | [www.hhs.gov/ocr](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr)*

- We cannot, and will not, require you to waive the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as a condition of receiving treatment from the office.
- We cannot, and will not, retaliate against you for filing a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

### **Uses and Disclosures Requiring Authorization**

#### **Patient Contact**

CCBD may contact you to provide you with appointment reminders, with information about treatment alternatives, or with information about other health-related benefits and services that may be of interest to you. For example, we may leave voice messages at the telephone number you provide with us.

#### **Communication with Family & Friends**

Generally, no information about you will be disclosed without your written authorization. The only exceptions include essential business operations, life-threatening emergencies, a court order, or instances involving our ethical and legal duty to report abuse.

In addition, unless you object, CCBD may use or disclose your PHI to notify, or assist in notifying, a family member, personal representative, or other person responsible for your care, about your location, and about your general condition, or your death.

### **Philanthropic Support**

CCBD may use or disclose certain health information about you to contact you as part of its fundraising activities. You have the right to choose not to receive these communications and we will tell you how to cancel them.

### **Disaster Relief Efforts**

CCBD may use and disclose your PHI to assist in disaster relief efforts.

### **Health Information Exchange**

CCBD may use or disclose PHI electronically for treatment, payment and health care operation purposes through its participation in a health information exchange with other health care providers. You may opt-out of the health information exchange. If so, your PHI will continue to be used in accordance with this Notice and the law; however, your PHI will not be made electronically available through the health information exchange.

## **Uses and Disclosures with Neither Consent nor Authorization**

### **Public Health Activities**

1. Controlling Disease
  - a. As required by law, CCBD may disclose your PHI to public health or legal authorities charged with preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability.
2. Child Abuse and Neglect
  - a. CCBD may disclose PHI to public authorities as allowed by law to report child abuse or neglect.
3. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
  - a. CCBD may disclose to the FDA your PHI relating to adverse events with respect to food, supplements, products and product defects, or post-marketing surveillance information to enable product recalls, repairs, or replacements.

### **Victims of Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence**

CCBD can disclose PHI to governmental authorities to the extent the disclosure is authorized by statute or regulation and in the exercise of professional judgment the doctor believes the disclosure is necessary to prevent serious harm to the individual or other potential victims.

### **State Specific Requirements**

Each state has unique requirements for reporting data, including population-based activities relating to improving health or reducing healthcare cost. Be sure to reference the state regulations based on the location of the CCBD facility.

### **Oversight Agencies**

Federal law allows us to release your PHI to appropriate health oversight agencies or for health oversight activities to include audits, civil, administrative or criminal investigations: inspections; licensures or disciplinary actions, and for similar reasons related to the administration of healthcare.

### **Judicial/Administrative Proceedings**

CCBD may disclose your PHI in the course of any judicial or administrative proceeding as allowed or required by law, or as directed by a proper court order or administrative tribunal, provided that only the PHI released is expressly authorized by such an order, or in response to a subpoena, discovery request or other lawful process.

### **Law Enforcement**

CCBD may disclose your PHI for law enforcement purposes as required by law, such as when required by court order, including laws that require reporting of certain types of wounds or other physical injury.

### **Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors**

CCBD may disclose your PHI to funeral directors or coroners consistent with applicable law to allow them to carry out their duties.

### **Organ Procurement Organizations**

Consistent with applicable law, CCBD may disclose your PHI to organ procurement organizations or other entities engaged in the procurement, banking, or transplantation of organs, eyes, or tissue for the purpose of donation and transplant.

**Research**

CCBD may disclose information to researchers when their research has been approved by an institutional review board that has reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of your PHI.

**Threat to Health and Safety**

To avert a serious threat to health or safety, CCBD may disclose your PHI consistent with applicable law to prevent or lessen a serious, imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public.

**For Specialized Governmental Functions**

CCBD may disclose your PHI for specialized government functions as authorized by law such as to Armed Forces personnel, for national security purposes, or to public assistance program personnel.

**Correctional Institutions**

If you are an inmate of a correctional institution, CCBD may disclose to the institution or its agents the PHI necessary for your health and the health and safety of other individuals.

**Workers Compensation**

If you are seeking compensation through Workers Compensation, CCBD may disclose your PHI to the extent necessary to comply with laws relating to Workers Compensation.

**Other Uses and Disclosures**


Other uses and disclosures besides those identified in this Notice will be made only as otherwise authorized by law or with your written authorization which you may revoke except to the extent information or action has already been taken.

**Website**

You will find this "Notice of Privacy Practices" on the CCBD website at: [www.thecentertx.com](http://www.thecentertx.com).

If you have additional questions concerning this "Notice of Privacy Practices" they may be addressed to the OneOncology VP of Compliance via the following means:

<b>OneOncology</b>  <i>Attn: VP of Compliance</i> <i>424 Church Street</i> <i>Suite 2400</i> <i>Nashville, TN 37219</i>	<b>1.615.880.8479</b>
	<b>complianceandprivacy@oneoncology.com</b>

	<b>Policy Title:</b> NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES FOR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION
	<b>Effective Date:</b> 07/01/2021
	<b>Previous Versions Dated:</b> NA