

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

At The Hillsboro Fire Department we respect the privacy and confidentiality of your health information. We are sincere in our promise to ensure the confidentiality of your information in a responsible and professional manner.

HOW WE USE INFORMATION

The Hillsboro Fire Department may use or share health information with others for the purpose of treatment and operations without your written permission.

TREATMENT use includes verbal and written information about your medical condition and treatment from you and others, such as family members and doctors. We may give your protected health information to other health care providers involved in your treatment.

OPERATIONS use includes quality improvement activities and training programs to ensure that personnel meet our standards of care and follow established policies and procedures, as well as certain other management and administrative functions (ie physician advisor).

State and federal laws require us to release your health information to others. The Hillsboro Fire Department can be required to provide health information to others without your written authorization, or opportunity to object, in the following situations:

To another health care provider who treats you;

For health care and legal compliance activities;

To an individual involved in your medical care if we obtain your verbal agreement to do so or if we give you an opportunity to object to such a disclosure and you do not raise an objection. We may also give information to an individual if we infer from the circumstances that you would not object. In situations where you are not capable of giving consent we may determine that a disclosure to an individual is in your best interest. In that situation we will disclose only health information relevant to the person's involvement in your care.

To an entity assisting in a disaster relief effort;

To a public health authority to report suspected abuse, neglect or domestic violence;



For health oversight activities including audits or government investigations, inspections, disciplinary proceedings, and other administrative or judicial actions undertaken by the government (or their contractors) by law to oversee the health care system;

For judicial and administrative proceedings as required by a court or administrative order, or in some cases in response to a subpoena or other legal process;

For law enforcement activities in limited situations, such as when responding to a warrant;

For military, national defense and security and other special government functions;

To avert a serious threat to the health and public safety of a person or the public at large;

For workers' compensation purposes, and in compliance with workers' compensation laws;

To coroners, medical examiners, and funeral directors for carrying on their duties as authorized by law;

To organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank, as necessary to facilitate organ donation and transplantation;

For research projects, subject to strict oversight and approvals;

We may also use or disclose protected health information about you in a way that does not personally identify you or reveal who you are.