

## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

**Betty Chung Grasty MD PA**  
**Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine**

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

Dr. Betty Chung Grasty M.D. P.A., is committed to treating and using protected health information about you responsibly. This Notice of Health Information Practices describes the personal information we collect, and how and when we use or disclose that information. It also describes your rights as they relate to your protected health information. This Notice is effective 01/01/2014 and applied to all protected health information as defined by federal regulations.

Understanding Your Health Record/Information

Each time you visit Betty Chung Grasty MD PA, a record of your visit is made. Typically, this record contains your symptoms, examination and test results, diagnoses, treatment, and a plan for future care or treatment. This information, often referred to as your health or medical record, serves as a:

**Basis for planning your care and treatment**

Means of communication among the many health professionals who contribute to your care,

- Legal document describing the care you received,
- Means by which you or a third-party payer can verify that services billed were actually provided,
- A tool in educating health professionals
- A source of data for medical research,
- A source of information for public health officials charged with improving the health of this state and the nation,
- A source of data for our planning and marketing,
- A tool which we can assess and continually work to improve the care we render and the outcomes we achieve,

Understanding what is in your record and how your health information is used helps you to: ensure its accuracy, better understand who, what, when, where, and why others may access your health information, and make more informed decisions when authorizing disclosure to others.

If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with the practice's Privacy Officer, or with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. There will be no retaliation for filing a complaint with either the Privacy Office or the Office for Civil Rights. The address for the OCR is listed below:

*Office for Civil Rights*

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C., 20201

**Examples of Disclosures for Treatment, Payment, and Health Operations**

*We will use your health information for treatment.*

For example: Information obtained by a nurse, physician, or other member of your health care team will be recorded in your record and used to determine the course of treatment that should work best for you. Your physician will document in your record his or her expectations of the members of your health care team. Members of your health care team will then record the actions they took and their observations. In that way, the physician will know how you are responding to treatment.

We will also provide your physician or a subsequent health care provider with copies of various reports that should assist him or her in treating you for continuity of care.

*We will use your health information for payment.*

For example: A bill may be sent to you or a third-party payer. The information on or accompanying the bill may include information that identifies you, as well as your diagnosis, procedures, and supplies used.

*We will use your health information for regular health operations.*

For example: Members of the medical staff, the risk or quality improvement manager or members of the quality improvement team may use information in your health record to assess the care and outcomes in your case and others like it. This information will then be used in an effort to continually improve the quality and effectiveness of the healthcare and service we provide.

*Business associates:* There are some services provided in our organization through contacts with business associates. An example is a copy service (or a business associate as deemed necessary for daily operations) we use when making copies of your health record. When these services are contracted, we may disclose your health information to our business associate so that they can perform the job we've asked them to do and bill you or your third-party payer for services rendered. TO protect your health information, however, we require the business associate to appropriately safeguard your information.

*Notification:* We may use or disclose information to notify or assist in notifying a family member, personal representative, or another person responsible for your care, your relocation, and general condition.

*Communication with family:* Health professionals, using their best judgment, may disclose to a family member, other relative, close personal friend or any other person you identify, health information relevant to that person's involvement in your care or payment related to your care.

*Funeral Directors:* We may disclose health information to funeral directors consistent with applicable law to carry out their duties.

*Food and Drug Administration (FDA):* We may disclose health information relative to adverse events with respect to food, supplements, product and product defects, or post marketing surveillance information to the FDA to enable product recalls, repairs or replacement.

*Law enforcement:* We may disclose health information for law enforcement purposes as required by law or in response to a valid subpoena.

Federal law makes provision for your health information to be released to an appropriate health oversight agency, public health authority or attorney, provided that a work force member or business associate believes in good faith that we have not engaged in unlawful conduct or have otherwise violated professional or clinical standards and are potentially endangering one or more patients, workers or the public.

### **Your Health Information Rights**

Although your health record is the physical property of Betty Chung Grasty MD PA, the information belongs to you. You have the right to:

- Obtain a paper copy of this notice of information practices upon request
- Inspect and copy your health record as provided for in 45 CFR 164.524. Appointment made through Privacy Officer
- Amend your health record as provided in 45 CFR 164.528.
- Obtain an accounting of disclosures of your health information as provided in 45 CFR 164.528
- Request communications of your health information by alternative means or at alternative locations
- Request a restriction on certain uses and disclosures of your information as provided by 45 CFR 164.522 and
- Revoke your authorization to use or disclose health information except to the extent that action has already been taken
- You have a right to receive a copy of your medical record with a written request in 15 business days. Is provided by Texas House Bill 300 effective September 1,2012.

### **Our Responsibilities**

Betty Chung Grasty MD PA is required to:

- Maintain the privacy of your health information
- Provide you with this notice as to our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to information we collect and maintain about you
- Abide by the terms of this notice
- Notify you if we are unable to agree to a requested restriction (by law, no required to accept restrictions as requested), and
- Accommodate reasonable requests you may have to communicate health information by alternative means or at alternative locations.

We reserve the right to change our practices and to make the new provision effective for all protected health information we maintain. Should our information practices change, we will post notice in our offices, post on our website (bettygrastymd.com) and have these changes available in our office. We will provide you with a revised notice upon request.

WE will not use or disclose your health information without your authorization, except as described in this notice. We will also discontinue using or disclosing your health information after we have received a written revocation of the authorization according to the procedures included in the authorization.

**Betty Chung Grasty MD PA**  
**HIPAA NOTICE OF HEALTH INFORMATION PRACTICES**  
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**972-409-0015**