

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
California Correctional Health Care Services



NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

Effective: June 1, 2019

Your health information is personal and private. We are committed to protecting this information. We create a record of the care you receive. This record is needed to provide you with medically necessary care and to comply with certain legal requirements.

We are required by law to:

- Make sure that health care information that identifies you is kept private;
- Give you this notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your health care information;
- Follow the terms of the notice that is currently in effect; and
- Notify you of a breach of unsecured protected health information.

How We May Use and Disclose Your Health Care Information. The categories listed below describe the ways we use and disclose health care information. Not every possible use or disclosure is listed.

For Treatment. We may use your health care information to care for you. For example, we may disclose health care information about you to doctors in other health facilities who may be involved in your care.

For Payments, Refunds, and/or Reimbursements. We may share health care information to facilitate review of and payment for health care services provided to you. We solicit requests for reimbursement for services provided to you which are eligible for payments to us from federal programs, and may share health care information about you with other agencies which facilitate those reimbursements. We do this so we can coordinate payments for services and receive reimbursements or refunds. For example, we may give health care information to the Department of Health Care Services so we can receive eligible payments from federal funds for health care provided to you at outside hospitals.

For Health Care Operations. We may use and disclose health care information about you for health care operations. These uses and disclosures are necessary to deliver health care and make sure all of our patients receive quality care. For example, we may use health care information to review the treatment provided to you.

As Required by Law. We will disclose health care information about you when required to do so by federal, state, or local law. If we are required to report to the court concerning your condition, we may include health care information about you.

For Corrections Activities. We may disclose health care information about you when required for the maintenance, administration, safety, security, and good order of the correctional institution.

For Disclosure at Your Request. We may disclose health care information when requested by you. This will generally require your written authorization.

Workers' Compensation. We may release health care information about you for workers' compensation claims for work-related injuries or illness.

Public Health Risks. We may disclose health care information about you to public health agencies as permitted by law.

Health Oversight Activities. We may disclose your health care information to a health oversight agency for activities permitted by law. These oversight activities include, for example, audits, investigations, inspections, and licensure. These activities are necessary for the government to monitor the health care system, government programs, and compliance with civil rights laws.

Lawsuits and Disputes. If you are involved in a lawsuit or a dispute, we may disclose health care information about you in response to a court or administrative order. We may also disclose health care information about you in response to a subpoena, discovery request, or other legal proceeding by someone else involved in the dispute in accordance with federal and state privacy laws.

Inmates. As an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may disclose health care information in accordance with federal and state privacy law about you to the correctional institution or law enforcement official. These disclosures may be necessary for the institution to provide you with health care, to protect your health and safety or the health and safety of others, or for the safety and security of the correctional institution. We may also disclose health care information about you to a county health care facility or parole clinic to coordinate your follow-up care when leaving CDCR jurisdiction.

Statistical Analysis: We may use and disclose health care information about you for health care quality improvement projects, including statistical analysis. For example, a quality improvement project may involve comparing the health and recovery of all patients who received one medication to those who received another for the same condition. Statistical analysis projects may be subject to special approval and may also be subject to limits under federal or state law if considered "research."

Law Enforcement. In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, we may release a patient's health care information if asked to do so by a law enforcement official.

For Grievances Regarding This Notice. If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a health care grievance at your institution. All health care grievances must be submitted in accordance with health care grievance regulations. **You will not be penalized in any way for filing a health care grievance.**

You may file a complaint with the Secretary of the federal Department of Health and Human Services. Submit any complaints to:

Centralized Case Management Operations
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Room 509F HHH Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20201