

Lincoln Trail District Health Department Notice of Privacy Practices

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to the information

Please review it carefully

Your Rights

When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights. This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

Get an electronic or paper copy of your medical record

You can ask to see or get an electronic or paper copy of your medical record and other health information we have about you. This request must be in writing. We will provide a copy or a summary of your health information, usually within 30 days of your request.

Ask us to correct your medical record

You can ask us to correct health information about you that you think is incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this. We may say “no” to your request, but we will tell you why in writing within 60 days.

Request confidential communications

You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or send mail to a different address. We will say “yes” to all reasonable requests.

Ask us to limit what we use or share

You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations. We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say “no” if it would affect your care.

If you pay for a service or health care item out-of-pocket in full, you can ask us not to share that information for the purpose of payment or our operations with your health insurer. We will say “yes” unless a law requires us to share that information.

Get a list of those with whom we’ve shared information

You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we’ve shared your health information for six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why.

We will include all the disclosures except those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We will provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

Get a copy of this privacy notice

You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

Choose someone to act for you

If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information. We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated

You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us by phone at 270-769-1601 or 1-800-280-1601 or in writing to 108 New Glendale Rd. Elizabethtown, KY 42701 Attention: HIPAA Privacy Officer

You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting

www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

Your Choices

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share.

If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions. In these cases, you have both the rights and choice to tell us to: share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in your care, share information in a disaster relief situation, include your information in a hospital directory.

If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

In the following cases, we never share your information unless you give us written permission: marketing purposes, sale of your information, most sharing of psychotherapy notes. *We do not create or maintain psychotherapy notes at this practice. We never market or sell personal information.*

In the case of fundraising: We may contact you for fundraising efforts, but you can tell us not to contact you again.

Our Use and Disclosures

How do we typically use or share your health information? We typically use or share your health information in the following ways:

Treat you

We can use your health information and share it with other professionals who are treating you or helping to get you treatment. Examples: school nurse, school family resource center, dentist, and physician.

Run our organization

We can use and share your health information to run our practice, improve your care, and contact you when necessary.

Bill for services

We can use and share your health information to bill and get payment from health plans or other entities.

How else can we use or share your health information?

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions by law before we can share your information for these purposes. For more information, go to:

www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/comsumers/index.html.

Help with public health and safety issues

We can share health information about you for certain situations such as: preventing disease, helping with product recalls, reporting adverse reactions to medications, reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence, preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety.

Do research

We can use or share your information for health research.

Comply with the law

We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we are complying with federal privacy law.

Respond to organ and tissue donation requests

We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.

Work with a medical examiner or funeral director

We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.

Address workers compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests

We can use or share health information about you for the following: workers compensation claims, law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official, with health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law, special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services.

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

Our responsibilities

We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.

We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.

We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it, if requested.

We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can, in writing. You may change your mind at any time. If you do change your mind, let us know in writing.

For more information go to: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html.

Changes to the terms of this notice

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, in our office, and on our website www.lincolntailhealthdepartment.com