Your Privacy is Important to Us

Joint Notice of Privacy Practices

This notice describes how health information about your child may be used, disclosed, and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully.

When we refer to your child, we also mean you.

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the Valley Children's Healthcare Privacy Officer at 559-353-5411.

Who does this notice cover?

This is a joint notice and describes Valley Children's Healthcare's (which includes Valley Children's Medical Group, Valley Children’s Medical Group, Valley Children's Specialty Medical Group, Valley Children's Primary Care Group, and Valley Children's Hometeam) practices, you may contact the Valley Children's Healthcare's Privacy Officer.

Right to Amend.

You have the right to request an amendment if you believe your/your child's privacy practices are incorrect or incomplete. The request must be in writing. You may also file a complaint directly with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at the Office for Civil Rights. You may also file a complaint directly with the Secretary of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at the Office for Civil Rights. Anyone who believes they may have experienced or observed information blocking by any of our health care providers or health information network or health information exchange is encouraged to share their concerns with the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) through the Information Blocking Portal on ONC's website, www.HealthIT.gov. We will not take any retaliation against you if you file a complaint.

For More Information

To act on any of the information provided in the Privacy Notice or for more information about our privacy practices, you may contact the Valley Children's Healthcare Privacy Officer.

Right to Request Restrictions.

You have the right to request restrictions on the use or disclosure of your health information for treatment, payment, or health care operations. However, we are not required to agree to your request. If we do agree, we will include it whenever the provider discloses information about your child is incorrect or inaccurate, you may ask us to amend the information we use or disclose for treatment, payment or health care operations. If we do not agree, you also have the right to request a limit on the health information we disclose about you to someone who is involved in your child's care or the payment for your child's care, like a family member or friend. We are required to agree to the request. We may deny your request in certain circumstances, under federal law, for example: we believe the information is needed to provide emergency treatment. In certain circumstances, under federal law, Valley Children's Healthcare will honor special restrictions on the disclosure of your information to a health plan if the services are paid in full and out-of-pocket by the patient.

You have a right to opt out of the sharing of your child's health information with the Office of Civil Rights (ONC) through the Information Blocking Portal on ONC's website, www.HealthIT.gov. We will not take any retaliation against you if you file a complaint.

Right to Accounting of Disclosures.

You have the right to request a list of certain disclosures of health information about your child. This accounting will list the times we have given your health information to others. The list will include the dates of the disclosures, the names of the people or organizations to whom the information was disclosed, a description of the information, and the reasons for the disclosures. This notice describes different ways that we use and disclose health information. For example, your child may be treated by his/her physician at a primary care practice who may refer your child to the Valley Children's Healthcare Pulmonology Clinic for care of your child's asthma. The primary care practice physician may need to share health information with the pulmonologist. We may disclose medication orders and care Joint Notice of Privacy Practices notice in a prominent location. The new notice will include an effective and revision date.

How we may use or disclose your health information

The following categories describe different ways that we use and disclose health information. For each category of uses or disclosures we will explain what we mean and try to give some examples. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed. However, all of the ways we are permitted to use and disclose information will fall within one of the categories.

For Treatment.

We will use information about your child to provide him/her with medical treatment or services. This means we may disclose information created in the doctor’s office or other healthcare provider. For example, your child may be treated by his/her physician at a primary care practice who may refer your child to the Valley Children's Healthcare Pulmonology Clinic for care of your child's asthma. The primary care practice physician may need to share health information with the pulmonologist. We may disclose medication orders and care Joint Notice of Privacy Practices

Our right to change this notice

We reserve the right to change our Policies and Procedures, as described in this Notice, at any time. We will provide you with a copy of this Notice and accompanying information about any changes.

Our notice applies to all of the records of your child's care generated at Valley Children's Healthcare, its clinics, or doctor's offices, whether made by healthcare personnel or your child's personal doctor. Your child's personal doctor may have different policies or notices regarding the doctor's use and disclosure of your child's medical information created in the doctor's office or clinic (if outside of Valley Children's Healthcare). This notice will tell you about the ways in which we may use or disclose information about your child. We will also describe your rights and certain obligations we have regarding the use and disclosure of such information.

Valley Children's Healthcare Responsibilities

• We are required to protect the privacy of your personal health information.
• We must give this notice of our privacy practices and legal duties regarding health information to anyone who asks for it.
• We must follow the terms of the notice that are currently in effect.
• We are required to notify you if a breach of your personal health information occurs.

For More Information

To act on any of the information provided in the Privacy Notice or for more information about our privacy practices, you may contact Valley Children's Healthcare Privacy Officer.

Valley Children's Medical Group, Valley Children's Specialty Medical Group, and Valley Children's Hometeam practices and that of:

• All employees, staff, volunteers and other personnel whose work is under direct control of Valley Children's Healthcare.
• All affiliated physicians who provide care to our patients.
• Any person who has been authorized to enter information into your child's medical record.
• Any sites operated by Valley Children's Healthcare.
• Any clinics operated by Valley Children's Hospital, Valley Children's Medical Group, Valley Children's Specialty Medical Group, or Valley Children's Primary Care Group.

Our pledge regarding medical information

In the course of receiving services from Valley Children's Healthcare, you will provide us with personal information about your child's health with the understanding that this information will be kept confidential. We create a record of the care and services your child receives through the hospital, clinic, or your child's primary care provider. We need this record to provide your child with quality care and to comply with certain legal requirements.

This notice applies to all of the records of your child's care generated at Valley Children's Healthcare, its clinics, or doctor's offices, whether made by healthcare personnel or your child's personal doctor. Your child's personal doctor may have different policies or notices regarding the doctor's use and disclosure of your child's medical information created in the doctor's office or clinic (if outside of Valley Children's Healthcare). This notice will tell you about the ways in which we may use or disclose information about your child. We will also describe your rights and certain obligations we have regarding the use and disclosure of such information.

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also share health information about your child in order to coordinate the child’s care. We may also combine the health information with other health information for activities that are limited to primary care physicians and other healthcare providers who may need it in order to provide you with the care and services you may require for treatment or medical care at the hospital, clinic, or physician’s office. This may include extending you of your child’s appointment.

Treatment Alternatives. We may use health information to inform you of health-related products, benefits, services, or alternatives that may be of interest to you.

Health-Related Benefits, Products or Services. We may use health information to inform you of health-related products, benefits, services, or alternatives that may be of interest to you.

Health Fairs/Screenings. We may use your child’s health information to conduct health fairs or screenings. We may keep a copy of your child’s health information to screen or test for diabetic retinopathy unless you tell us in advance not to do so. Unless there is a specific written request from you stating otherwise, we may also tell your family or friends your child’s condition and that your child is in the hospital. In addition, we may disclose your health information to your child to an entity assisting in a disaster relief effort so that your family can be notified about your child’s condition, status and location.

Research. Under certain circumstances, we may disclose medical information for research purposes. Federal rules govern disclosure of your health information for research purposes without your authorization; however, federal rules also require a patient’s informed consent prior to the receipt of health information for research purposes. We will obtain the patient’s consent in connection with research projects and adequate safeguards to protect the privacy of your child’s health information.

Funding. We will use your child’s health information to request funds for donations to Valley Children’s Healthcare and its operations. We will disclose health information to a foundation related to Valley Children’s Healthcare for the same purpose. If you do not want Valley Children’s Healthcare to contact you for fundraising efforts, contact the Valley Children’s Healthcare Privacy Officer at 9300 Valley Children’s Place Mailstop GE26, Madera, CA 93636-8762 to opt out.

Patient Appreciation Letters/Pictures/Cards. We may use or disclose personal health information from your health record to send you patient appreciation letters, pictures, or cards, or to send you a program, we may use your child’s health information, including names, locations in the hospital, his/her diagnosis, and whether certain new treatments will be used.

Military and Veterans. If you are a member of the armed forces, we may make medical information about you as required by law to a covered entity or any other entity that has the legal right to make decisions about your health information and for other purposes.

Law Enforcement. We may disclose medical information about you in response to a subpoena,5 a court order, or other legal process. Except as otherwise required by law, we will use or disclose health information only to the extent that we have reason to believe that disclosing the information is necessary to prevent serious harm or death.

3. You/Your Child’s Rights

You have the right to inspect, copy, and receive a concise explanation of your child’s health information, including names, locations in the hospital, his/her diagnosis, and whether certain new treatments will be used. We will provide you with a copy of our Notice within thirty days of receipt of your written request. If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Director of Privacy, Valley Children’s Healthcare, 9300 Valley Children’s Place, Mailstop GE26, Madera, CA 93636-8762. Alternatively, you may file a complaint with the Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20201. We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions about the privacy practices of Valley Children’s Healthcare.

National Security and Intelligence Activities. We may disclose medical information about your child to authorized federal officials for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities as authorized by law.

Protective Services for the President and Others. We may disclose medical information about your child to authorized federal officials so they may provide protection to the President and others as necessary to protect the President’s, other federal officials or persons or foreign heads of state or conduct special investigations.

Inmates. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may disclose information about you so that the information will be made available to the person or facility supervising your care.

Your Rights and Legal Choices

We have the right to use and disclose your child’s health information for purposes other than treatment, payment, or health care operations as provided in our Notice. If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Director of Privacy, Valley Children’s Healthcare, 9300 Valley Children’s Place, Mailstop GE26, Madera, CA 93636-8762. Alternatively, you may file a complaint with the Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20201. We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions about the privacy practices of Valley Children’s Healthcare.

Immunization Registry. We may use and disclose immunization information to different services that maintain a regional and state registry that supports the sharing of vaccine information with providers and limited information with schools, child care, and other agencies.

Worker’s Compensation. If you are employed, we may release health information for workers compensation or similar programs. These programs provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.

Health Oversight Activities. We may disclose health information to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law. These oversight activities include, for example, audits, investigations, licensure, and inspection. These activities are necessary for our compliance with federal privacy regulations; or to notify the appropriate government authority to monitor the health care system. For example, to identify a deceased person so. We may disclose medical information about you to health oversight activities as authorized by law.

Funeral Directors. We may disclose medical information about your child to funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties. For example, to identify a deceased person so. We may disclose medical information about you to health oversight activities as authorized by law.
information in our Hospital directory; reasons will not be included on the list:

reason. Disclosures for the following names of the people or organizations to include the dates of the disclosures, the Right to an Accounting of Disclosures.

records are incomplete or incorrect. The In addition, under California law, a health record.

to delete any information from your accept your request, we are not required to amend if it is not in writing or we do deny your request for an amendment if it is not in writing does not include a reason to support the request. Please write to us if we accept your request, we are not required to delete any information from your health record.

In addition, under California law, a minor’s parent may submit an addendum of up to 250 words to his or her medical record if they believe the records are incomplete or incorrect. The health care provider must include the addendum in the patient’s records and include it whenever the provider discloses the allegedly incomplete or inaccurate record to any third party.

Right to an Accounting of Disclosures. You have the right to request a list of certain disclosures of health information about your child. This accounting will list the times we have given your health information to others. The list will include the dates of the disclosures, the names of the people or organizations to whom the information was disclosed, a description of the information, and the reasons. Disclosures for the following reasons will not be included on the list: disclosures for treatment, payment or health care operations; disclosures of information in our Hospital directory; disclosures for national security purposes; disclosures you have authorized and disclosures made directly to you.

Your request must state a time period which may not be longer than six years and may not include dates before April 14, 2003. Your request should indicate in what form you want the list (for example, on paper, electronically). The first list you request within a 12 month period will be free. For additional lists, we may charge you for the costs of providing the list. We will notify you of the cost involved and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before any costs are incurred.

Right to Request Restrictions. You have the right to request a restriction or limitation on the health information we use or disclose for treatment, payment or health care operations. You also have the right to request a limit on the health information we disclose about you to someone who is involved in your child’s care or the payment for your child’s care, like a family member or friend. We are not required to agree to the request. If we do agree, we will comply with your request unless the information is needed to provide emergency treatment. In certain circumstances, under federal law, Valley Children’s Healthcare will honor special restrictions on the disclosure of certain sensitive information to a health plan if the services are paid in full and out-of-pocket by the patient.

You have a right to opt out of the sharing your child’s health information with the CVHIE immunization registry. Information regarding opting out will be provided to you at your request.

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 in writing, you may also file a complaint directly with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at the Office for Civil Rights. You may also file a complaint directly with the Secretary of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at the Office for Civil Rights. Anyone who believes they may have experienced or observed information blocking by any of our health care providers or health information network or health information exchange is encouraged to share their concerns with the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) through the Information Blocking Portal on ONC’s website, www.HealthIT.gov. We will not take any retaliation against you if you file a complaint.

For More Information To act on any of the information provided in the Privacy Notice or for more information about our privacy practices, you may contact the Valley Children’s Healthcare’s Privacy Officer, 9300 Valley Children’s Place, Mailstop GE26, Madera, CA 93636, telephone (559) 353-5411, e-mail: privacyoffice@valleychildrens.org.

Documentation Valley Children’s Healthcare Privacy Officer maintains the joint notice by retaining a copy of the version of the notices issued by Valley Children’s Healthcare for a period of at least 6 years from the date of its creation or the date when it last was in effect, whichever is later. 9300 Valley Children’s Place Madera, California 93636-8762 T: (559) 353-3000 www.valleychildrens.org

This notice describes how health information about your child may be used or disclosed to you so you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully.

When we refer to your child, we also mean you. If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the Valley Children’s Healthcare Privacy Officer at 559-353-5411.

Who does this notice cover? This is a joint notice and describes Valley Children’s Healthcare’s (which includes Valley Children’s Hospital, Valley Children’s Medical Group, Valley Children’s Specialty Medical Group, Valley Children’s Primary Care Group, and Valley Children’s Homecare) practices and that of:

• All employees, staff, volunteers and other personnel whose work is under direct control of Valley Children’s Healthcare.

• All affiliated physicians who provide care to our patients.

• Any professional authorized to enter information into your child’s medical record.

• Any sites operated by Valley Children’s Healthcare.

• Any clinics operated by Valley Children’s Healthcare, Valley Children’s Medical Group, Valley Children’s Specialty Medical Group, or Valley Children’s Primary Care Group.

Our pledge regarding medical information:

In the course of receiving services from Valley Children’s Healthcare, you will provide us with personal information about your child’s health with the understanding that this information will be kept confidential. We create a record of the care and services your child receives through the hospital, clinic or doctor’s office. We need this record to provide your child with quality care and to comply with certain legal requirements.

This notice applies to all of the records of your child’s care generated at Valley Children’s Healthcare, its clinics, or doctor’s offices, whether made by healthcare personnel or by your child’s personal doctor. Your child’s personal doctor may have different policies or notices regarding the doctor’s use and disclosure of your child’s medical information created in the doctor’s office or clinic (if outside of Valley Children’s Healthcare). This notice will tell you about the ways in which we may use and disclose information about your child. We will also describe your rights and certain obligations we have regarding the use and disclosure of such information.

Valley Children’s Healthcare Responsibilities

• We are required to protect the privacy of your child’s personal health information.

• We must give this notice of our privacy practices and legal duties regarding health information to anyone who asks for it.

• We must follow the terms of the notice that are currently in effect.

• We are required to notify you if a breach of your child’s unsecured personal health information occurs.

Our right to change this notice We reserve the right to change our Policies and Procedures, as described in this Notice, at any time. We reserve the right to offer new services and to change any of the health information which we already provide, as well as any new health information we receive in the future. We will post a copy of the current notice in a prominent location. The new notice will include an effective and revision date.

How we may use or disclose your health information The following categories describe different ways that we use and disclose information. For each category of uses or disclosures we will explain what we mean and try to give some examples. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed. However, all of the ways we are permitted to use and disclose information will fall within one of the categories.

For Treatment. We use information about your child to provide him/her with medical treatment or services. This means we will disclose health information about your child to doctors, clinicians, nurses, technicians, medical students, or other Valley Children’s Healthcare personnel who are involved in taking care of your child.

For example, your child may be treated by his/her physician at a primary care practice who may refer your child to the Valley Children’s Healthcare Pulmonology Clinic for care of your child’s asthma. The primary care practice physician may need to share health information with the pulmonologist. We may disclose medication orders and care Joint Notice of Privacy Practices. For example, you may choose to give nurses for the care of your child during school hours. Different departments of Valley Children’s Hospital may...