



Your Information. Your Rights. Our Responsibilities.

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this 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. Ask us how to do this.
- We will provide a copy or a summary of your health information, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.

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’ll 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 to send mail to a different address.
- We will say “yes” to all reasonable requests.

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Your Rights *continued*

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 for those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We’ll 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 using the information on page 1.
- You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and 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.

Opt out:

- North Carolina's Health Information Exchange: if you do not want us to use or share your information unless we must by law or you give written permission, complete and submit the opt-out form located at <https://hiea.nc.gov/patients> or call 227-0101 and ask for the Privacy Officer.
- Care Everywhere: If you do not want your electronic medical record to be available to other providers through Care Everywhere, contact Cone Health’s Health Information Management office at (336) 832-8677 or him.requests@conehealth.com to opt out of Care Everywhere. If you choose to opt out of Care Everywhere, other providers involved in your care will not be able to electronically obtain your full health information. Cone Health will be able to retrieve your health information from other providers, even if you opt out of Care Everywhere. You must contact other providers directly if you do not want those providers to share your information.

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 right 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
- Contact you for fundraising efforts

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 these cases we *never* share your information unless you give us written permission:

- Marketing purposes
- Sale of your information
- Most sharing of psychotherapy notes

In the case of fundraising:

- We may contact you for fundraising efforts, but you can tell us not to contact you again.

Our Uses 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.

Example: A doctor treating you for an injury asks another doctor about your overall health condition.

Run our organization

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

Example: We use health information about you to manage your treatment and services.

Bill for your services

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

Example: We give information about you to your health insurance plan so it will pay for your services.

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 in the law before we can share your information for these purposes. For more information see: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html.

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North Carolina's Health Information Exchange and Care Everywhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can share your health information so doctors and hospitals in North Carolina, or ones that use the same computer system (Epic), can safely see your medical record when they need to.
Help with public health and safety issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can share health information about you for certain situations such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can use or share your information for health research.
Comply with the law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law.
Respond to organ and tissue donation requests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.
Work with a medical examiner or funeral director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can use or share health information about you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For workers' compensation claims • For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official • With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law • For special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services
Respond to lawsuits and legal actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

Additional notes:

- 1. We do not create or manage a hospital directory.*
- 2. North Carolina law requires us to report suspected child abuse or neglect to the Department of Social Services.*
- 3. If you commit a crime, or threaten to commit a crime, on the premises of our program or against program personnel, we may report information about the crime or threat to law enforcement officers.*
- 4. North Carolina law generally requires your written consent before we may disclose health information related to your mental health, developmental disabilities, or substance abuse services.*
- 5. Under North Carolina law, minors, with or without the consent of a parent or guardian, have the right to consent to services for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of certain illnesses, including sexually transmitted disease, pregnancy, substance abuse and emotional disturbance. If you are a minor and you consent to one of these services, you have all of the authority and rights included in this Notice relating to that service.*
- 6. Local health departments may disclose protected health information (PHI) to law enforcement officials only if the disclosure is specifically allowed by all confidentiality laws that apply to the information which may include any or all of the following: The HIPAA Privacy Rule, North Carolina confidentiality laws, such as the state statute that limits the disclosure of communicable disease information; any other applicable federal laws that address the confidentiality of the information, such as the federal regulation restricting the disclosure of information about Title X Family Planning clients.*

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

For more information see: 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 web site.

Original effective date: April 14, 2003

Revised: April 13, 2015

Revised: December 1, 2025

This Notice of Privacy Practices applies to the following organizations.

Alamance County Health Department

*Alamance County Health Department
Attention: Privacy Officer
319 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd, Suite B
Burlington, NC 27217
336-513-2253
336-227-0101 (main number)*