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Effective 4/16/03

# **Notice of Privacy Practices**

ActivStyle, Inc. is committed to protecting your privacy. Therefore, ActivStyle, Inc. has developed policies and procedures to ensure that the information you provide to us is collected and maintained in a confidential manner. This Privacy statement explains these important policies and procedures so that you will be aware of how we collect and use the information you provide to us, and how you may modify and/or delete this information. ActivStyle, Inc. Notice of Privacy Practices as required by the Privacy Regulations Promulgated Pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

Our organization is dedicated to maintaining the privacy of your identifiable health information. In conducting our business, we will create records regarding you and the treatment and services we provide you. We are required by law to maintain the confidentiality of health information that identifies you. We also are required by law to provide you with this notice of our legal duties and privacy practices concerning your identifiable health information. By law, we must follow the terms of the notice of privacy practices that we have in effect at the time. To summarize, this notice provides you with the following important information:

- How we may use and disclose your identifiable health information
- Your privacy rights in your identifiable health information
- Our obligation concerning the use and disclosure of your identifiable health information

### USES AND DISCLOSURES

**Treatment.** Your health information may be used by staff members or disclosed to other health care professionals for the purpose of evaluating your health and providing treatment.

**Payment.** Your health information may be used to seek payment from your health plan or from credit card companies that you may use to pay for services. For example, your health plan may request and receive information on dates of service, the services provided, and the medical condition being treated.

**Health care operations.** Your health information may be used as necessary to support the day-to-day activities and management ActivStyle, Inc. For example, information on the services you received may be used to support budgeting and financial reporting, and activities to evaluate and promote quality.

**Law enforcement.** Your health information may be disclosed to law enforcement agencies, without your permission, to support government audits and inspections, to facilitate law-enforcement investigations, and to comply with government mandated reporting.

**Public health reporting.** Your health information may be disclosed to public health agencies as required by law. For example, we are required to report certain communicable diseases to the state's public health department.

**Serious Threats to Health or Safety.** Our organization may use and disclose your identifiable health information when necessary to reduce or prevent a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of another individual or the public. Under these circumstances, we will only make disclosures to a person or organization able to help prevent the threat.

**Military.** Our organization may disclose your identifiable health information if you are a member of U.S. or foreign military forces (including veterans) and if required by the appropriate military command authorities.

**National Security.** Our organization may disclose your identifiable health information to federal officials for intelligence and national security activities authorized by law. We also may disclose your identifiable health information to federal officials in order to protect the President, other officials or foreign heads of state, or to conduct investigations.

**Inmates.** Our organization may disclose your identifiable health information to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials if you are an inmate or under the custody of a law enforcement official. Disclosure for these purposes would be necessary: (a) for the institution to provide health care services to you, (b) for the safety and security of the institution, and/or (c) to protect your health and safety or the health and safety of other individuals

**Workers' Compensation.** Our organization may release your identifiable health information for workers' compensation and similar programs.

#### ADDITIONAL USES OF INFORMATION

**Order reminders.** Your health information will be used by our staff to send you appointment reminders.

**Information about treatments.** Your health information may be used to send you information on the treatment and management of your medical condition that you may find to be of interest. We may also send you information describing other health-related goods and services that we believe may interest you.

## RIGHT TO REVISE PRIVACY PRACTICES

As permitted by law, we reserve the right to amend or modify our privacy policies and practices. These changes in our policies and practices may be required by changes in federal and state laws and regulations. Whatever the reason for these revisions, we will provide you with a revised notice in your next shipment. The revised policies and practices will be applied to all protected health information that we maintain.

# YOUR RIGHTS REGARDING YOUR IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION

Confidential Communications. You have the right to request that our organization communicate with you about your health and related issues in a particular manner or at a certain location. For instance, you may ask that we contact you at home, rather than at work. In order to request a type of confidential communication, you must make a written request to ActivStyle Privacy Officer, 3100 Pacific St. N, Minneapolis, MN, 55411 specifying the requested method of contact, or the location where you wish to be contacted. Our organization will accommodate reasonable requests. You do not need to give a reason for your request.

**Requesting Restrictions.** You have the right to request a restriction in our use or disclosure of your identifiable health information for treatment, payment or health care operations. Additionally, you have the right to request that we limit our disclosure of your identifiable health information to individuals involved in your care or the payment for your care, such as family members and friends. **We are not required to agree to your request**; however, if we do agree, we are bound by our agreement except when otherwise required by law, in emergencies, or when the information is necessary to treat you. In order to request a restriction in our use or disclosure of your identifiable health information, you must make your request in writing to ActivStyle Privacy Officer, 3100 Pacific St. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411. Your request must describe in a clear and concise fashion: (a) the information you wish restricted; (b) whether you are requesting to limit our practice's use, disclosure or both; and (c) to whom you want the limits to apply.

**Requests to Inspect Protected Health Information**. As permitted by federal regulation, we require that requests to inspect or copy protected health information be submitted in writing. You may obtain a form to request access to your records by contacting ActivStyle Privacy Officer, 3100 Pacific St. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411.

Amendment. You may ask us to amend your health information if you believe it is incorrect or incomplete, and you may request an amendment for as long as the information is kept by or for our organization. To request an amendment, your request must be made in writing and submitted to ActivStyle Privacy Officer, 3100 Pacific St. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411. You must provide us with a reason that supports your request (and the reason supporting your request) in writing. Also, we may deny your request if you ask us to amend information that is: (a) accurate and complete; (b) not part of the identifiable health information kept by or for the organization; (c) not part of the identifiable health information which you would be permitted to inspect or copy; or (d) not created by our organization, unless the individual or entity that created the information is not available to amend the information.

Accounting of Disclosures. All of our patients have the right to request an "accounting of disclosures". An "accounting of disclosures" is a list of certain disclosures our organization has made of your identifiable health information. In order to obtain an accounting of disclosures, your must submit a request in writing to ActivStyle Privacy Officer, 3100 Pacific St. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411. All requests for an "accounting of disclosures" must state a time period, which may not be longer than six years and may not include dates before April 14, 2003. The first list you request within a 12-month period is free of charge, but our practice may charge you for additional lists within the same 12-month period. Our organization will notify you of the costs involved with additional requests, and you may withdraw your request before you incur any costs.

**Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice.** You are entitled to receive a paper copy of our notice of privacy practices. You may ask us to give you a copy of this notice at any time. To obtain a paper copy of this notice, contact ActivStyle Privacy Officer, 3100 Pacific St. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411.

**Complaints.** If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with our organization or with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. To file a complaint with our organization, contact ActivStyle Privacy Officer, 3100 Pacific St. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411. All complaints must be submitted in writing. You will not be penalized for filing a complaint.

**Right to Provide an Authorization for Other Uses and Disclosures.** Our organization will obtain your written authorization for uses and disclosures that are not identified by this notice or permitted by applicable law. Any authorization you provide to us regarding the use and disclosure of your identifiable health information may be revoked at any time in writing. After you revoke your authorization, we will no longer use or disclose your identifiable health information for the reasons described in the authorization. Please note, we are required to retain records of your care.