

PATIENT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

PATIENT INFORMATION **Referred By:**

Name: _____ Soc Sec #: _____
First Mid Last

Address: _____
Street / PO Box City State Zip

Telephone: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Sex: M F Date of Birth: ____/____/____ **E-Mail:** _____

Email is required for our Patient Portal and other educational communications.

Primary Care Physician: _____
Name Phone Address

Marital Status: _____ Race: _____ Ethnicity: Hispanic _____ Non-Hispanic _____

Emergency Contact: _____
Name Phone Relationship to Patient

Spouse Info (if Applicable): _____
Name Date of Birth Phone Employer

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Employed By _____ Occupation _____

Business Address _____ Business Telephone _____

Employment Status: FT _____ PT _____ Self _____ Retired _____ Military _____ Not Employed _____ Student _____

PRIMARY INSURANCE Medicare Medicaid Self Pay Commercial

Insurance Company: _____
Name HMO / PPO / OPEN ACCESS

Policy # _____ Group # _____ Specialist Co-Pay _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Insured _____ Insured SS # _____

Relationship to Patient _____ Date of Birth of Insured _____

Patient Preference: _____
Hospital Laboratory Pharmacy/Address

SECONDARY INSURANCE Not Applicable Medicare Medicaid Self Pay Commercial

Insurance Company: _____
Name HMO / PPO / OPEN ACCESS

Policy # _____ Group # _____ Specialist Co-Pay _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Insured _____ Insured SS # _____

Relationship to Patient _____ Date of Birth of Insured _____

ASSIGNMENT AND RELEASE

Authorization to treat and release information to insurance carrier for direct payment to the provider: I authorize treatment and the release of any medical information (acquired in my treatment) to process claims to my insurance carrier. I authorize direct payment from my insurance company to my provider. At any time should I decide that I want to file my own claims, I understand that payment in full will be required at the time of service. I also understand that I will be financially responsible for all charges incurred. In the event it becomes necessary to collect the amount due on my account by legal litigation, the handling fees, service charges or court costs will be paid by the guarantor listed above, which could include a 25% collection fee. In order to prevent the application of the above, fees should be paid timely upon completion of rendered services. I authorize the release of medical records to Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates PC as necessary for continuity of care. Also, I understand that the practice will provide, at my request, a copy of the HIPAA Notice of Privacy, which is clearly posted in the lobby area.

 PATIENT'S SIGNATURE

 PRINT NAME

 DATE

 GUARANTOR'S SIGNATURE (If other than patient)

 PRINT NAME

 DATE

PATIENT NAME _____ AGE ____ BIRTHDATE _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

What is your reason for today's visit? _____

REVIEW OF SYSTEMS (ROS) Check symptoms you currently have or have had in the past year.

<p>GENERAL Height _____ Usual weight _____ lbs. Date of last physical exam _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chills <input type="checkbox"/> Fever <input type="checkbox"/> Sweats <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of sleep <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of weight <input type="checkbox"/> Tired <input type="checkbox"/> Weight gain</p> <p>EYES <input type="checkbox"/> Blurred vision <input type="checkbox"/> Pain in eyes <input type="checkbox"/> Vision Changes <input type="checkbox"/> Vision – Halos</p> <p>EARS, NOSE, THROAT <input type="checkbox"/> Earache/drainage <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Ringing in ears <input type="checkbox"/> Nasal drainage <input type="checkbox"/> Nosebleeds <input type="checkbox"/> Sinus Problems <input type="checkbox"/> Hoarseness <input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding Gums <input type="checkbox"/> Swallowing difficulty</p> <p>MENTAL <input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety <input type="checkbox"/> Nervousness <input type="checkbox"/> Depression</p>	<p>CARDIOVASCULAR <input type="checkbox"/> Abdominal EKG <input type="checkbox"/> Chest pain, tightness, pressure <input type="checkbox"/> Fainting, blacking out <input type="checkbox"/> High blood pressure <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular heart beat <input type="checkbox"/> Leg pain when walking <input type="checkbox"/> Low blood pressure <input type="checkbox"/> Poor circulation <input type="checkbox"/> Rapid heart beat <input type="checkbox"/> Swelling of ankles or feet <input type="checkbox"/> Varicose veins <input type="checkbox"/> Cold/numb feet or hands</p> <p>GASTROINTESTINAL <input type="checkbox"/> Appetite poor <input type="checkbox"/> Bloating <input type="checkbox"/> Bowel changes <input type="checkbox"/> Constipation <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea <input type="checkbox"/> Eating habit changes <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive hunger <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Hemorrhoids <input type="checkbox"/> Indigestion <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea and/or vomiting <input type="checkbox"/> Rectal bleeding</p> <p>NEUROLOGICAL <input type="checkbox"/> Convulsions, fits, seizures <input type="checkbox"/> Dizziness <input type="checkbox"/> Double vision <input type="checkbox"/> Forgetfulness <input type="checkbox"/> Headache <input type="checkbox"/> Numbness</p>	<p>HEMATOLOGIC <input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding tendency</p> <p>SKIN <input type="checkbox"/> Bruise easily <input type="checkbox"/> Change in moles <input type="checkbox"/> Change in skin color <input type="checkbox"/> Scars <input type="checkbox"/> Sore that won't heal</p> <p>RESPIRATORY <input type="checkbox"/> Chest colds (frequent) <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent cough <input type="checkbox"/> Coughing of blood <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty breathing <input type="checkbox"/> Wheezing</p> <p>GENITOURINARY <input type="checkbox"/> Blood in urine</p> <p>Urination: <input type="checkbox"/> > twice overnight <input type="checkbox"/> Painful <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of control <input type="checkbox"/> Dribbling urine <input type="checkbox"/> Pass more water than used to <input type="checkbox"/> Lose urine when cough/sneeze <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease in force/function</p> <p>MUSCLE/JOINT/BONE Pain, weakness, numbness in: <input type="checkbox"/> Arms <input type="checkbox"/> Hips <input type="checkbox"/> Elbows <input type="checkbox"/> Back <input type="checkbox"/> Legs <input type="checkbox"/> Wrist <input type="checkbox"/> Feet <input type="checkbox"/> Neck <input type="checkbox"/> Ankle <input type="checkbox"/> Hands <input type="checkbox"/> Shoulder <input type="checkbox"/> Feet <input type="checkbox"/> Knees <input type="checkbox"/> Trouble walking</p>	<p>ALLERGIC <input type="checkbox"/> Hives <input type="checkbox"/> Rash or itching</p> <p>ENDOCRINE <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive thirst</p> <p>MEN ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Breast lump <input type="checkbox"/> Erection difficulties <input type="checkbox"/> Lump in testicles <input type="checkbox"/> Penis discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Sore on penis <input type="checkbox"/> Enlarged prostate <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>WOMEN ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Abnormal Pap Smear <input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding between periods <input type="checkbox"/> Breast lump <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme menstrual pain <input type="checkbox"/> Hot flashes <input type="checkbox"/> Nipple discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Painful intercourse <input type="checkbox"/> Vaginal discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>Date of Last Pap Smear _____</p> <p>Date of Last Mammogram _____</p> <p>Are you pregnant? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Number of Children _____</p>
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PAST MEDICAL, FAMILY, AND SOCIAL HISTORY (check conditions you currently have or have had in the past)

<p><input type="checkbox"/> AIDS <input type="checkbox"/> Alcoholism <input type="checkbox"/> Anemia <input type="checkbox"/> Anorexia <input type="checkbox"/> Arthritis <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma <input type="checkbox"/> Bladder/Kidney Infections <input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding Disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Breast Lump <input type="checkbox"/> Bronchitis <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiac Cath when? _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Cataracts <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical Dependency <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Emphysema <input type="checkbox"/> Epilepsy <input type="checkbox"/> Gallbladder Disease <input type="checkbox"/> Glaucoma <input type="checkbox"/> Goiter <input type="checkbox"/> Gout <input type="checkbox"/> Hay Fever <input type="checkbox"/> Heart Attack, MI when? _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Heart Disease <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis <input type="checkbox"/> High Blood Pressure <input type="checkbox"/> High Cholesterol <input type="checkbox"/> HIV Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Jaundice <input type="checkbox"/> Liver Disease <input type="checkbox"/> Kidney Disease <input type="checkbox"/> Migraine Headaches <input type="checkbox"/> Miscarriage <input type="checkbox"/> Mononucleosis <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Sclerosis</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Osteoporosis <input type="checkbox"/> Pacemaker <input type="checkbox"/> Pneumonia <input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatric Care/Problems <input type="checkbox"/> Prostate Problems <input type="checkbox"/> Rheumatic Fever <input type="checkbox"/> Stroke <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide Attempt <input type="checkbox"/> Thyroid Problems <input type="checkbox"/> Tuberculosis <input type="checkbox"/> Ulcers <input type="checkbox"/> Vaginal Infections</p>
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PERSONAL HABITS – SOCIAL HISTORY (check all that apply)

<p>TOBACCO <input type="checkbox"/> Cigarettes # per day ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Pipe <input type="checkbox"/> Cigars when did you start smoking? Age/years ____ when did you stop smoking? Age/Years ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal drugs</p>	<p>ALCOHOL <input type="checkbox"/> Hard Liquor <input type="checkbox"/> less than 1oz/day <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3oz/day <input type="checkbox"/> Over 3 oz/day <input type="checkbox"/> Beer <input type="checkbox"/> 1 bottle/day <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 bottles/day <input type="checkbox"/> Over 3 bottles/day</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Wine <input type="checkbox"/> 1 glass/day <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 glasses/day <input type="checkbox"/> Over 3 glasses/day <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee ____ cups/day <input type="checkbox"/> Other Caffeine _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Use of a lot of salt <input type="checkbox"/> Special food restrictions</p>	<p>SLEEPING <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty falling asleep <input type="checkbox"/> Continuity disturbances <input type="checkbox"/> Early morning awakening <input type="checkbox"/> Daytime drowsiness</p> <p>EXERCISE <input type="checkbox"/> Routine exercise program <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise at least 3 times/week</p>
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EDUCATION GED Technical School Graduate School High School College **CARETAKER** Self care Relative Other _____

PRIOR HOSPITALIZATION/ILLNESSES/INJURIES		
Year	Hospital	Reasons for Hospitalization and Outcome

OCCUPATIONAL: CHECK IF YOUR WORK EXPOSES YOU TO THE FOLLOWING		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heavy Lifting	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stress	Hazardous Substances
<input type="checkbox"/>		Other
Occupation: _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Work more than 60 hours per week <input type="checkbox"/> Work more than one job <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Currently unemployed <input type="checkbox"/> Housewife / Homemaker		

Year	Serious Illness/Injuries	Outcome

Other Physicians Currently Seeing

MEDICATIONS (List all current prescription and non-prescription medications)		

ALLERGIES

FAMILY HISTORY: Fill in health information about your family. Put a Check or fill in information in those boxes applicable to you.

	Father				Mother				Brother				Sister				Spouse		Children					
Age (if Living)									1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5	6
Health (G) Good (B) Bad																								
Cancer																								
Tuberculosis																								
Diabetes																								
Heart Trouble																								
High Blood Pressure																								
Stroke																								
Epilepsy / Seizures																								
Kidney Disease																								
Lupus																								
Rheumatoid Arthritis																								
Asthma, Hay Fever																								
Blood Disease																								
Age of Death																								
Cause of Death																								

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Statement of Financial Policy

It is our firm belief that all patients who come to this office expect and deserve quality medical care. In order for us to provide this level of service, it is important that our patients understand our financial policies. Therefore, we are asking that you read and sign the following important information:

1. If we are a participating provider in your plan, we will be listed in your group’s “provider list” or “preferred provider” directory. This is not a guarantee of payment. We will bill your insurance company directly and receive payment from them directly. Most plans require a “co-payment” per visit and/or have yearly “deductibles”. Some plans require you to pay a 20% co-payment when diagnostic tests are provided. We require that co-payments and/or deductibles be paid prior to services being rendered or the appointment can either be rescheduled or patient may have an additional \$25.00 added to their account.
2. If your insurance requires referral approval, necessary documentation is your responsibility. You must give your referral form and/or number to the receptionist when you check in to see the doctor. Failure to comply with the requirements of your insurance company could leave you responsible for services rendered.
3. If your insurance information is up-to-date, we will file up to two separate insurance claim forms for services you receive. It is your responsibility to tell us about changes in your insurance plan. It is important to remember that your insurance coverage is a contract between you and your insurance company. Although we file claims for you, you are still responsible for your bill, regardless of the amount your insurance company pays, except in cases of pre-negotiated insurance agreements and where legally prohibited.
4. If you do not have insurance, payment is expected at the time you receive services. Payment will be accepted in cash, by check or credit card. If check is returned for non-sufficient funds, an additional service fee of \$30.00 will be added to the patient’s account. If payment in full is not possible at the time of service, arrangements must be made through our billing office.
5. In the event that payment is not received after 3 payment notifications have been mailed, a 25% collection fee will be added to the account prior to being submitted to the collection agency. It is the responsibility of the patient to notify the office of any insurance, address or other demographic changes.
6. In order to assist patient requests for an immediate appointment, we require at least 48 hour advance notice should your appointment need to be cancelled or rescheduled. If you do not provide us notice **at least 48 hour advance notice a \$50 charge** may be added to your account.
7. A self pay discount plan is available only if paid in advance of seeing the provider. If not paid in full prior to the appointment, the full charge will apply.

We hope this Statement of Financial Policy helps you understand the importance of prompt payment of your bill. Please feel free to call our billing office at (912)354-4813 if you have any questions.

I have read the above information and understand that I am responsible for notification for notification of my insurance plan mandates.

Patient / Guarantor’s Signature Date

Patient’s Name Patient’s Date of Birth

**PATIENT CONSENT TO THE USE & DISCLOSURE OF HEALTH INFORMATION
FOR TREATMENT, PAYMENT OR HEALTHCARE OPERATIONS**

I, _____, understand that as part of my healthcare, NEPHROLOGY AND HYPERTENSION MEDICAL ASSOCIATES originates and maintains paper and/or electronic records describing my health history, symptoms, examination and test results, diagnoses, treatment and any plans for future care or treatment. I understand that the information serves as:

- A basis for planning my care and treatment,
- A means of communication among the many health professionals who contribute to my care,
- A source of information for applying my diagnosis and surgical information to my bill,
- A means by which a third-party payor can verify the services billed were actually provided and
- A tool for routine healthcare operations such as assessing quality and reviewing the competence of healthcare professionals

I understand and have been provided with a Notice of Privacy Practices that provides a more complete description of information uses and disclosures. I understand that I have the following rights and privileges:

- The right to review the notice prior to signing this consent
- The right to object to the use of my health information for directory purposes and
- The right to request restrictions as to how my health information may be used or disclosed to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations

I understand that Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates is not required to agree to the restrictions requested. I understand that I may revoke this consent in writing, except to the extent that the organization has already taken action in reliance thereon. I also understand that by refusing to sign this consent or revoking this consent, this organization may refuse to treat me as permitted by Section 164.506 of the code of Federal Regulations.

I further understand that Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates reserves the right to change their notice and practices and prior to implementation, in accordance with Section 164.520 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Should Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates change their notice, they will send a copy of any revised notice to the address that I have provided (whether US Mail or I agree, email).

I wish to have the following restrictions to the use or disclosure of my health insurance:

I understand that as part of this organizations treatment, payment or healthcare operations, it may become necessary to disclose my protected health information to another entity, and I consent to such disclosure for these permitted uses, including disclosures via fax. I hereby acknowledge that (participating organization) will share my medical information, as permitted under federal law (H.I.P.A.A.) and Georgia and South Carolina state law, with my healthcare providers through a health information exchange. I fully understand and accept/decline the terms of this consent.

Patient's Signature

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

- Consent received by _____ on _____
- Consent refused by patient and treatment refused as permitted.
- Consent added to the patient's medical record on _____



PATIENT RECORD OF DISCLOSURES

In general, the HIPAA privacy rule gives individuals the right to request a restriction on uses and disclosures of protected health information (PHI). The individual is also provided the right to request confidential communications of PHI made by alternative means, such as sending correspondence to the individual’s office instead of their home.

I wish to be contacted in the following manner: *(check all that apply)*

Work Telephone

- OK to leave detailed message
- Leave message with call back number only

Home Telephone

- OK to leave detailed message
- Leave message with call back number only

Written Communication

- OK to mail to home address
- OK to mail to work/office
- OK to fax to this telephone number _____

You may leave messages with, discuss my treatment, appointments or other scheduling that may occur or give other information as necessary with the following family, friends or personal representatives. I understand that Nephrology & Hypertension Medical Associates will refuse to discuss my information with anyone not listed below, except in an emergency. I also understand that this consent does not apply to medical providers.

Please print:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 3. _____ |
| | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please print name: _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF PRIVACY NOTICE

I have been presented with a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices for Nephrology & Hypertension Medical Associates detailing how my information may be used and disclosed as permitted under federal and state law.

Patient/Guardian Signed _____ Date: _____

Relation to patient: _____

For Office Use Only:

If patient or guardian refuses to sign acknowledgement of receipt of notice, please document the date and time the notice was presented to patient and sign here:

Presented by: _____ *(employee name and title)*

Date: _____ Time: _____



PATIENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CONFIDENTIALITY

It is the policy of Nephrology & Hypertension Medical Associates, P.C., to treat all patient information confidentially. This includes patient records and conversations. We will investigate any reported violation of this policy. If you have any questions, please direct them to one of our staff members.

Nephrology & Hypertension Medical Associates, P.C. makes every effort to provide our patients with an environment which is safe, private, and respectful of our patient's needs. If you have a complaint about our services, facilities, or staff, we want to hear from you. We will do everything we can to see that your experience with us is pleasant and professional in every way.

ISSUES OF CARE

Nephrology & Hypertension Medical Associates, P.C. is committed to your participation in care decisions. As a patient, you have the right to ask questions and receive answers regarding the course of clinical care recommended by any of our health providers, including discontinuing care. We urge you to follow the healthcare directions given to you by our providers. However, if you have any doubts or concerns, or if you question the care prescribed by our providers, please ask for further information.

PATIENT RIGHTS

1. The patient has the right to receive information from health providers and to discuss the benefits, risks, and costs of appropriate treatment alternatives. Patients should receive guidance from their health providers as to the optimal course of action. Patients are also entitled to obtain copies or summaries of their medical records, to have their questions answered, to be advised of potential conflicts of interest that their health providers might have, and to receive independent professional opinions.
2. The patient has the right to make decisions regarding the health care that is recommended by his or her health provider. Accordingly, patients may accept or refuse any recommended medical treatment.
3. The patient has the right to courtesy, respect, dignity, responsiveness, and timely attention to his or her needs, regardless of race, religion, ethnic or national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability.
4. The patient has the right to confidentiality. The health provider should not reveal confidential communications or information without the consent of the patient, unless provided for by law or by the need to protect the welfare of the individual or the public interest.
5. The patient has the right to continuity of health care. The health provider has an obligation to cooperate in the coordination of medically indicated care with other health providers treating the patient. The health provider may discontinue care provided they give the patient reasonable assistance and direction, and sufficient opportunity to make alternative arrangements.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Good communication is essential to a successful health provider-patient relationship. To the extent possible, patients have a responsibility to be truthful and to express their concerns clearly to their health providers.

2. Patients have a responsibility to provide a complete medical history, to the extent possible, including information about past illnesses, medications, hospitalizations, family history of illness, and other matters relating to present health.
3. Patients have a responsibility to request information or clarification about their health status or treatment when they do not fully understand what has been described.
4. Once patients and health providers agree upon the goals of care, patients have a responsibility to cooperate with the treatment plan. Compliance with health provider instructions is often essential to public and individual safety. Patients also have a responsibility to disclose whether previously agreed upon treatments are being followed and to indicate when they would like to reconsider the treatment plan.
5. Patients should have an active interest in the effects of their conduct on others and refrain from behavior that places the health and safety of others at risk.

Patient Name

Date

Date of Birth

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.

<p>Get an electronic or paper copy of your medical record</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>Ask us to correct your medical record</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>Request confidential communications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>Ask us to limit what we use or share</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment or our operations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will say “yes” unless a law requires us to share that information.
<p>Get a list of those with whom we’ve shared information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>Get a copy of this privacy notice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>Choose someone to act for you</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us using the information found at the top of this page. 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.

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.

<p>In these cases, you have both the right and choice to tell us to:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p><i>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.</i></p>
<p>In these cases we never share your information unless you give us written permission:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing purposes • Sale of your information • Most sharing of psychotherapy notes
<p>In the case of fundraising:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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:

<p>Treat you</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can use your health information and share it with other professionals who are treating you. 	<p><i>Example: A doctor treating you for an injury asks another doctor about your overall health condition.</i></p>
<p>Run our organization</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can use and share your health information to run our practice, improve your care, and contact you when necessary. 	<p><i>Example: We use health information about you to manage your treatment and services.</i></p>
<p>Bill for your services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can use and share your health information to bill and get payment from health plans or other entities. 	<p><i>Example: We give information about you to your health insurance plan so it will pay for your services.</i></p>

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.

<p>Help with public health and safety issues</p>	<p>We can share health information about you for certain situations such as:</p> <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
<p>Do research</p>	<p>We can use or share your information for health research.</p>
<p>Comply with the law</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Respond to organ and tissue donation requests</p>	<p>We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.</p>
<p>Work with a medical examiner or funeral director</p>	<p>We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.</p>
<p>Address workers’ compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests</p>	<p>We can use or share health information about you:</p> <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.
<p>Respond to lawsuits and legal actions</p>	<p>We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.</p>

NOTE: We do not create or maintain a hospital directory or psychotherapy notes at this practice.

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.hss.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.

Effective 2/1/2015

Privacy Officer:
1115 Lexington Avenue
Savannah, GA 31404
Phone 912/354-4813

Appendix A to Part 92—Sample Notice Informing Individuals About Nondiscrimination and Accessibility Requirements and Sample Nondiscrimination Statement:

Discrimination is Against the Law

Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates PC complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates PC do not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates PC:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
 - Qualified sign language interpreters
 - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact Mida Vause, RN (Clinical Manager) or Trish Rotureau (Operations Manager)

If you believe that Nephrology and Hypertension Medical Associates PC has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with: Mida Vause, RN (Clinical Manager) or Trish Rotureau (Operations Manager)

1115 Lexington Avenue
Savannah, GA 31404
912/354-4813
FAX 912/354-7560

You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, [Name and Title of Civil Rights Coordinator] is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at: <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building Washington, D.C. 20201
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.