



Integrative Pediatric Health Care, LLC
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IPHC Confidentiality Policy

Integrative Pediatric Healthcare is dedicated to keeping our clients safe, but we are legally obligated to following the guidelines put in place to protect adolescent confidentiality.

Patient Disclosure and Parent Access:

If a minor consented for his/ her own care or services, HIPAA regulations state that they must authorize the disclosure of those records. At the time of a confidential visit/ service performed in office, patients are asked to sign an authorization regarding the confidentiality of said visit. Statements must provide IN WRITING to revoke any consents the patient authorized regarding this health information disclosure. When a patient turns 18 years (or older), they are solely responsible for their healthcare. When a patient is legally an adult: they will sign an updated HIPAA authorization, your patient portal access will be revoked, the patient is the only person allowed to obtain medical records on their behalf (unless authorization was given prior), etc.

Billing Statements and Insurance Claims:

IPHC cannot control third party entities. (I.e. Insurance companies, lab work facilities, etc.) If a patient is covered under their parent/ guardian's insurance plan, that billing statements may still be sent to them from outside parties. As a part of Integrative Pediatrics treatment, payment, or health operations, it may become necessary to disclose my protected health information to another entity. I hereby consent to such disclosure for these permitted uses. The Colorado Department of Education's website states"

"While Medicaid and other types of public coverage generally avoid sending explanation of benefits (EOBs) to patients' homes for confidential or sensitive services, private insurance companies are often required to send EOBs as a measure to avoid fraud. Even if billing to the home is avoided, an EOB sent home can breach confidentiality for adolescents who are insured through their parents. In general, providers have little to no control over how insurers will inform their beneficiaries of claims, but HIPAA allows patients to request that his or her insurance plan not send an EOB to the household if disclosing the information to another household member will "endanger" the patient. Please note that the insurer is not obligated to comply with the request."

Mandated Reporting:

Your provider (and office staff members) is legally required to report certain things that may be disclosed during a visit, patient communication, etc. Some instances where confidentiality may be broken include but are not limited to: suspected child abuse, certain wounds or injuries, if the patient is a threat to themselves or others, if the patient is in imminent danger, suspected sexual assault, and payment/ health care operations (see above). If you have additional questions regarding your provider's required mandating, you can contact them directly or refer to your state's specific requirements. (The State of Colorado)

Parent and Patient Education:

Educational materials regarding confidentiality are offered at the time of the visit for both adolescents and parents, and these resources are also accessible on our website. Parents and patients are both provided an opportunity to talk with your child's PCP in private regarding concerns. Please see the attached "Quick Reference Chart" from the CO Department of Education's article, to review what services your child is legally allowed to obtain on their own. To review the article that most of this information was obtained from, visit:

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/documents/healthandwellness/download/school%20nurse/understanding%20minor%20consent%20and%20confidentiality%20in%20colorado.pdf>

We appreciate your cooperation, understanding, and support as we navigate your child's healthcare.

-Integrative Pediatric Health Care Staff