



NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES (Revised on May 24, 2022)

Uses and Disclosures for Treatment, Payment and Health Care Operations.

Cary Cardiology, P.A. may use or disclose your PHI for the purposes of treatment, payment and health care operations, described in more detail below, without obtaining written authorization from you. In addition, Cary Cardiology, P.A. and the members of its medical and allied health professional staff who participate in the organized health care arrangement described below may share your PHI with each other as necessary to carry out their treatment, payment and health care operations related to the organized health care arrangement.

For Treatment. Cary Cardiology, P.A. may use and disclose PHI in the course of providing, coordinating, or managing your medical treatment, including the disclosure of PHI for treatment activities of another health care provider. These types of uses and disclosures may take place between physicians, nurses, technicians, students, and other health care professionals who provide your health care services or are otherwise involved in your care. For example, if you are being treated by a primary care physician, that physician may need to use/disclose PHI to a specialist physician whom he or she consults regarding your condition, or to a nurse who is assisting in your care.

For Payment. Cary Cardiology, P.A. may use and disclose PHI in order to bill and collect payment for the health care services provided to you. For example, Cary Cardiology, P.A. may need to give PHI to your health plan in order to be reimbursed for the services provided to you. Cary Cardiology, P.A. may also disclose PHI to its business associates, such as billing companies, claims processing companies, and others that assist in processing health claims. Cary Cardiology, P.A. may also disclose PHI to other health care providers and health plans for the payment activities of such providers or health plans.

For Health Care Operations. Cary Cardiology, P.A. may use and disclose PHI as part of its operations, including for quality assessment and improvement, such as evaluating the treatment and services you receive and the performance of our staff in caring for you, patient surveys, provider training, underwriting activities, compliance and risk management activities, planning and development, and management and administration. Cary Cardiology, P.A. may disclose PHI to doctors, nurses, technicians, students, attorneys, consultants, accountants, and others for review and learning purposes, to help make sure Cary Cardiology, P.A. is complying with all applicable laws, and to help Cary Cardiology, P.A. continue to provide health care to its patients at a high level of quality. Cary Cardiology, P.A. may also disclose PHI to other health care providers and health plans for such entity's quality assessment and improvement activities, credentialing and peer review activities, and health care fraud and abuse detection or compliance, provided that such entity has, or has had in the past, a relationship with the patient who is the subject of the information.

For Sharing PHI Among Cary Cardiology, P.A. And Its Medical and Allied Health Professional Staff.

Cary Cardiology, P.A. and the physicians and other health care providers who are members of the Cary Cardiology, P.A. medical staff work together in an organized health care arrangement to provide medical services to you when you are a patient at Cary Cardiology, P.A. Cary Cardiology, P.A. and the members of its medical staff will share with each other PHI that they collect from you at Cary Cardiology, P.A. as necessary to carry out their treatment, payment and health care operations relating to the provision of care to patients at Cary Cardiology, P.A.

Disclosure to Health Information Exchanges.

Cary Cardiology, P.A. participates in the North Carolina Health Information Exchange Network, called NC HealthConnex, which is operated by the North Carolina Health Information Exchange Authority (NC HIEA). We will share your protected health information, or PHI, with the NC HIEA and may use NC HealthConnex to access your PHI to assist us in providing health care to you. We are required by law to submit clinical and demographic data pertaining to services paid for with funds from North Carolina programs like Medicaid and



State Health Plans. We may also share other patient data with NC HealthConnex not paid for with state funds. If you do not want NC HealthConnex to share your PHI with other health care providers who are participating in NC HealthConnex, you must opt out by submitting a form directly to the NC HIEA. Forms and brochures about NC HealthConnex are available in our office and online at NCHealthConnex.gov. You may also contact our privacy office at (919)233-0059 ext.143. Again, even if you opt out of NC HealthConnex, we still will submit your PHI if your health services are funded by State programs. Your patient data may also be exchanged or used by the NC HIEA for public health or research purposes as permitted or required by law. For more information on NC HealthConnex, please visit NCHealthconnex.gov/patients.

Regulatory Requirements.

Cary Cardiology, P.A. is required by law to maintain the privacy of your PHI, to provide individuals with notice of its legal duties and privacy practices with respect to PHI, and to abide by the terms described in this Notice. Cary Cardiology, P.A. reserves the right to change the terms of this Notice and of its privacy policies, and to make the new terms applicable to all of the PHI it maintains. Before Cary Cardiology, P.A. makes an important change to its privacy policies, it will promptly revise this Notice and post a new Notice in the Admissions areas. You have the following rights regarding your PHI:

You may request that Cary Cardiology, P.A. restrict the use and disclosure of your PHI. Cary Cardiology, P.A. is not required to agree to any restrictions you request, but if Cary Cardiology, P.A. does so it will be bound by the restrictions to which it agrees except in emergency situations.

You have the right to request that communications of PHI to you from Cary Cardiology, P.A. be made by particular means or at particular locations.

Generally, you have the right to inspect and copy your PHI that Cary Cardiology, P.A. maintains, provided that you make your request in writing to the Medical Records Custodian. Within thirty (30) days of receiving your request (unless extended by an additional thirty (30) days), Cary Cardiology, P.A. will inform you of the extent to which your request has or has not been granted. In some cases, Cary Cardiology, P.A. may provide you a summary of the PHI you request if you agree in advance to such a summary and any associated fees. If you request copies of your PHI or agree to a summary of your PHI, Cary Cardiology, P.A. may impose a reasonable fee to cover copying, postage, and related costs. If Cary Cardiology, P.A. denies access to your PHI, it will explain the basis for denial and your opportunity to have your request and the denial reviewed by a licensed health care professional (who was not involved in the initial denial decision) designated as a reviewing official. If Cary Cardiology, P.A. does not maintain the PHI you request and if it knows where that PHI is located, it will tell you how to redirect your request.