

PATIENT CONSENT TO USE UNENCRYPTED E-MAIL OR TEXT

It is very important that you are aware that computer e-mail, texts, and e-fax communication, can be relatively easily accessed by unauthorized people and hence can compromise the privacy and confidentiality of such communication.

E-mails, texts, and e-faxes, in particular, are vulnerable to such unauthorized access due to the fact that servers or communication companies may have unlimited and direct access to all e-mails, texts and e-faxes that go through them.

It is always a possibility that e-faxes, texts, and e-mail can be sent erroneously to the wrong address and computers. Unencrypted e-mail or texts provide as much privacy as a postcard. You should not communicate any information to your health care provider that you would not want to be included on a postcard that is sent through the Post Office.

E-mail messages on your computer, your laptop, Ipad, phone or other devices have inherent privacy risks – especially when your e-mail access is provided through your employer or when access to your e-mail messages is not password protected.

Please, note that e-mails, faxes, and texts are all part of your clinical records. Also, be aware that phone messages are transcribed and sent to “Our Organization” via unencrypted e-mails.

Please notify (Organization Name) if you decide to avoid or limit, in any way, the use of e-mail, texts, cell phone calls, phone messages, or e-faxes. If you communicate confidential or private information via unencrypted e-mail, texts or e-fax or via phone messages, it will be assumed that you have evaluated the risks and made an informed decision. (Organization Name) will view it as your agreement to take the risk that such communication may be intercepted, and your desire to communicate on such matters will be honored.

Emergencies: Please do not use texts, e-mail, voice mail, or faxes for emergencies.

Patient's Name: _____

Date: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Patient's Signature: _____