

**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.**

This notice pertains to the privacy of health information created, received or maintained by HWMG, Third-Party Administrator (“HWMG”, “We” or “Us”). We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your health information and to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your health information. This notice has been revised to reflect regulations issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and is effective as of **September 23, 2013**.

### How We May Use and Disclose Your Health Information

- **For Payment.** We may use and disclose your health information to pay claims for treatment, services or supplies you receive from health care providers. For example, we may receive and maintain information regarding an office visit with a doctor so as to enable us to process the doctor’s request for payment for the services.
- **For Health Care Operations.** We may use and disclose your health information to enable HWMG to perform its operations or to facilitate the provision of benefits to covered persons. For example, we may use your health information to develop ways to arrange for medical review or to engage in general administrative activities, such as customer service or responding to questions or concerns.
- **For Treatment.** We may disclose your health information to a health care provider who renders treatment on your behalf. For example, if you are unable to provide your medical history as the result of an accident, we may advise your treating physician about the types of prescription drugs that you currently take.
- **To the Company.** We may disclose your health information to designated Company personnel so they can carry out their administrative functions, including those described in this notice. These individuals will protect the privacy of your health information and ensure it is used only as described in this notice or as permitted by law.
- **To a Business Associate.** We may disclose health information to other persons or organizations, known as business associates, who provide services on HWMG’s behalf. To protect your health information, we require our business associates to appropriately safeguard the health information disclosed to them.
- **Health-Related Benefits, Services and Treatment Alternatives.** We may use and disclose your health information to inform you of health-related benefits, services or treatment options or alternatives that may be of interest to you.
- **Individual Involved in Your Care or Payment of Your Care.** We may disclose health information to a close friend or family member involved in, or who helps pay for, your health care.
- **As Required by Law.** We will disclose your health information when required by federal, state or local law.

We may also use or disclose your health information under the special use and disclosure situations described below.

- **Judicial and Administrative Proceedings.** We may disclose your health information in response to a court or administrative order, a subpoena, warrant, discovery request or other lawful process.
- **Law Enforcement.** We may release your health information if asked to do so by a law enforcement official.
- **Workers’ Compensation.** We may disclose your health information as necessary to comply with applicable workers’ compensation or similar laws.
- **To Avert Serious Threat to Health or Safety.** We may use and disclose your health information when necessary to prevent a serious threat to the health and safety of yourself, another person, or the public.
- **Public Health Activities.** We may disclose your health information for public health activities such as to an authorized public health authority for the purpose of preventing or controlling a disease, injury or disability.
- **Health Oversight Activities.** We may disclose your health information to a health oversight agency for audits, investigations, inspections and licensure necessary for the government to monitor the health care system and government programs, or to ascertain compliance with applicable civil rights laws.
- **Specialized Government Functions.** In certain circumstances, federal regulations require us to use or disclose your health information to facilitate government functions related to the military and veterans, national security and intelligence activities, protective services for the President and others, and correctional institutions and inmates.
- **Coroners and Medical Examiners.** We may release your health information to a coroner or medical examiner. This

may be necessary, for example, to identify the cause of a person's death.

## **Other Uses and Disclosures of Health Information**

Other uses and disclosures of health information not covered by this notice or by laws that apply to us will be made only with your written authorization. The law expressly restricts the use and disclosure of psychotherapy notes, the use or disclosure of health information for marketing purposes, or disclosures that constitute a sale of health information, unless authorized by you. If you authorize us to use or disclose your health information, you may revoke the authorization in writing at any time and we will no longer disclose or use your health information for the reasons covered by your written authorization. However, we will not retract any uses or disclosures previously made as a result of a prior authorization.

## **Your Rights Regarding Health Information About You**

You have the rights regarding your health information that are described below.

- **Protection of Genetic Information.** Genetic information about you or your family members may not be used or disclosed by us for activities relating to the creation, renewal, or replacement of a health insurance contract of health insurance or health benefits, or for any other underwriting purpose.
- **Notification of Breach of Unsecured Health Information.** You will be promptly notified if we or a business associate discovers a breach of unsecured health information that affects you.
- **Right to Inspect and Copy Your Health Information.** You have the right to inspect and copy your health information maintained by us. Your request must be in writing. We may charge a fee for the cost of copying and mailing your request. In limited circumstances, we may deny your request. Generally, you may request a review of the denial.
- **Right to Amend.** If you feel that your health information maintained by us is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask us to amend it for as long as the information is maintained by us. To request an amendment, you must send us a detailed request in writing and provide the reasons supporting your request. We may deny your request if the information requested to be amended is in fact accurate and complete, not created by us, not information maintained by us, or not information that you are otherwise permitted to inspect and copy.
- **Right to an Accounting of Disclosures.** You have the right to request a list of your health information that has been disclosed by us, other than disclosures made for treatment, payment or health operations; to you or to a person involved in your care; to a law enforcement custodial official or for national security purposes; or in a manner that removed information that identified you. The request must be made in writing and must specify the period for which you are requesting the information (for example, during the six months preceding the request date). We are not required to provide an accounting for disclosures made more than six years prior to the request.
- **Right to Request Restrictions.** You may request restrictions on HWMG's use and disclosure of your health information for treatment, payment or health care operation purposes, and on the disclosure to someone involved in the payment of your care. For example, you may request that we not disclose to a family member information regarding a surgery you have had. The request must be made in writing; however, we are not required to agree to your request.
- **Right to Receive Confidential Communications.** You have the right to request that we communicate with you in a certain way if you feel the disclosure of your health information could endanger you. For example, you may ask that we only communicate with you at a certain telephone number or by email. If you wish to receive confidential communications, your request must be in writing, specify how or where you wish to be contacted, and include a statement that disclosure of all or part of the information to which the request pertains could endanger you. We will attempt to honor reasonable requests for confidential communications.
- **Right to a Copy of This Notice.** You have a right to request and receive a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you previously received it. Submit requests to HWMG's Contact Person, or you may obtain a copy at [hwmg.org](http://hwmg.org).

## **Changes to this Notice**

We reserve the right to change the terms of this notice at any time. If it is revised we will distribute, a copy of the revised notice to you. The provisions of the new notice will apply to all health information thereafter maintained by us. Until such time as a notice is revised, we are required by law to abide by the terms of the current version of the notice.

## **Complaints**

Submit concerns or complaints about HWMG's safeguarding of your health information to HWMG's Contact Person. We will not retaliate against you in any way for filing a complaint. Complaints must be submitted in writing. If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may also file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights, DHHS.

## **Contact Person**

If you have any questions or wish to make a request regarding the matters covered by this notice, please contact:

HWMG Privacy Officer, 220 South King Street, Suite 1200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Phone (808) 941-4622 / Toll-Free (888) 941-4622