# **Website Privacy Statement**

Broadstep is sensitive to protecting the privacy of our website visitors. The purpose of this Privacy Statement is to let you know how we handle information received from you through this website, as well as inform you of the risks involved when you communicate or provide information by way of the Internet. Keep in mind that changes are periodically made to this Privacy Statement without notice. By continuing to use this site, you consent to our terms of use.

During your visit to our website, remember that the medical and health information presented here is intended to be general in nature, and should not be viewed as a substitute for professional advice. Please consult with a health care professional for all matters relating to personal medical and health care issues.

### **Health and Medical Information**

Broadstep is a Covered Entity and a Business Associate as defined and regulated under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

#### **Covered Entities Duties:**

Broadstep is required by law to keep the privacy of your protected health information (PHI). We must give you this Notice. It includes our legal duties and privacy practices related to your PHI. We must let you know if there is a breach of your unsecured PHI.

This Notice describes how we may use and disclose your PHI. It describes your rights to access, change and manage your PHI.

Broadstep can change this Notice. We reserve the right to make the revised or changed Notice effective for your PHI we already have. We can also make it effective for any of your PHI we get in the future. Broadstep will promptly update and get you this Notice whenever there is a material change to the following stated items in the notice:

- > The Uses and Disclosures
- > Your Rights
- Our Legal Duties
- > Other Privacy Practices Stated in the Notice

Updated notices will be on our website. Broadstep will also mail you or email you a copy on request.

#### **Uses and Disclosures of Your PHI:**

The following is a list of how we may use or disclose your PHI without your permission or authorization:

- > **Treatment**. We may use or disclose your PHI to a physician or other healthcare provider providing treatment to you. We do this to coordinate your treatment among providers. We also do this to help us with prior authorization decisions related to your benefits.
- Payment. We may disclose your PHI for payment purposes to another health plan, a healthcare provider, or other entity. This is subject to the federal Privacy Rules. Payment activities may include:
  - determining eligibility or coverage for claims
  - issuing premium billings
  - reviewing services for medical necessity
  - performing utilization review of claims
- HealthCare Operations. We may use and disclose your PHI to perform our Broadstep operations. These activities may include:
  - providing customer services
  - responding to complaints and appeals
  - providing care coordination
  - conducting medical review of claims and other quality assessment
  - improvement activities

In our Broadstep operations, we may disclose PHI to business associates. We will have written agreements to protect the privacy of your PHI with these associates. We may disclose your PHI to another entity that is subject to the federal Privacy Rules. The entity must also have a relationship with you for its healthcare operations. This includes the following:

quality assessment and improvement activities

- reviewing the competence or qualifications of healthcare professionals
- care coordination
- detecting or preventing fraud and abuse.
- As Required by Law. If federal, state, and/or local law requires a use or disclosure of your PHI, we may use or disclose your PHI information. We do this when the use or disclosure complies with the law. The use or disclosure is limited to the requirements of the law. There could be other laws or regulations that conflict. If this happens, we will comply with the more restrictive laws or regulations.
- Public Health Activities. We may disclose your PHI to a public health authority to prevent or control disease, injury, or disability. We may disclosure your PHI to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). We can do this to ensure the quality, safety or effectiveness products or services under the control of the FDA.
- Victims of Abuse and Neglect. We may disclose your PHI to a local, state, or federal government authority. This includes social services, or a protective services agency authorized by law to have these reports. We will do this if we have a reasonable belief of abuse, neglect or domestic violence.
- Judicial and Administrative Proceedings. We may disclose your PHI in judicial and administrative proceedings. We may also disclose it in response to the following:
  - an order of a court
  - administrative tribunal
  - subpoena
  - summons
  - warrant
  - discovery request
  - similar legal request
- > Law Enforcement. We may disclose your relevant PHI to law enforcement when required to do so. For example, in response to a:
  - court order
  - court-ordered warrant
  - subpoena
  - summons issued by a judicial officer

grand jury subpoena

We may also disclose your relevant PHI to identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person.

- Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors. We may disclose your PHI to a coroner or medical examiner. This may be needed, for example, to determine a cause of death. We may also disclose your PHI to funeral directors, as needed, to carry out their duties.
- > **Organs**. We may disclose your PHI to organ procurement organizations. We may also disclose your PHI to those who work in procurement, banking or transplantation for eyes.
- > Threats to Health and Safety. We may use or disclose your PHI if we believe, in good faith, that it is needed to prevent or lessen a serious or imminent threat. This includes threats to the health or safety of a person or the public.
- Workers' Compensation. We may disclose your PHI to comply with laws relating to workers' compensation or other similar programs, established by law. These are programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness without regard to fault.
- Femergency Situations. We may disclose your PHI in an emergency, or if you are unable to respond or not present. This includes to a family member, close personal friend, authorized disaster relief agency, or any other person you told us about. We will use professional judgment and experience to decide if the disclosure is in your best interests. If it is in your best interest, we will only disclose the PHI that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your care.
- Inmates. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may release your PHI to the correctional institution or law enforcement official, where such information is necessary for the institution to provide you with health care; to protect your health or safety; or the health or safety of others; or for the safety and security of the correctional institution.
- > **Research**. In some cases, we may disclose your PHI to researchers when their clinical research study has been approved and allowed by law. They must have safeguards in place to ensure the privacy and protection of your PHI.

Verbal Agreement to Uses and Disclosure of Your PHI

We are permitted to take your verbal agreement to use and disclose your PHI to other people. This includes family members, close personal friends or any other person you identify. You can object to the use or disclosure of your PHI at the time of the request. You can give us your verbal agreement or objection in advance. You can also give it to us at the time of the use or disclose. We will limit the use or disclosure of your PHI in these cases. We limit the information to what is directly relevant to that person's involvement in your healthcare treatment or payment.

We are permitted to accept your verbal agreement or objection to use and disclose your PHI in a disaster situation. We can give it to an authorized disaster relief entity. We will limit the use or disclosure of your PHI in these cases. It will be limited to notifying a family member, personal representative or other person responsible for you care of your location and general condition. You can give us your verbal agreement or objection in advance. You can also give it to us at the time of the use or disclosure of your PHI.

#### Uses and Disclosures of Your PHI That Require Your Written Authorization

We are required to obtain your written authorization to use or disclose your PHI, with few exceptions, for the following reasons:

- > Sale of PHI. We will request your written approval before we make any disclosure that is deemed a sale of your PHI. A sale of your PHI means we are getting paid for disclosing the PHI in this manner.
- Marketing. We will request your written approval to use or disclose your PHI for marketing purposed with limited exceptions. For example, when we have face-to-face marketing communications with you or, when we give promotional gifts of nominal value.
- Psychotherapy Notes. We will request your written approval to use or disclose any of your psychotherapy notes to the extent that we may have this information on file with limited exceptions; for example, for certain treatment, payment or healthcare operation functions.

All other uses and disclosures of your PHI not described in this Notice will be made only with your written approval. You may take back your approval at any time. The request to take back approval must be in writing. Your request to take back approval will go into effect as soon as you request it. There are two cases it won't take effect as soon as you request it. The first case is when we have already taken actions based on past approval. The second case is before we received your written request to stop.

#### **Your Rights**

The following are your rights concerning your PHI. If you would like to use any of the following rights, please contact us. Our contact information is at the end of this Notice.

- Right to Request Restrictions. You have the right to ask for restrictions on the use and disclosure of your PHI for treatment, payment or healthcare operations. You can also ask for disclosures to persons involved in your care or payment of your care. This includes family members or close friends. Your request should state the restrictions you are asking for. It should also say to whom the restriction applies. We are not required to agree to this request. If we agree, we will comply with your restriction request. We will not comply if the information is needed to provide you with emergency treatment. However, we will restrict the use or disclosure of PHI for payment or healthcare operations to a health plan when you have paid for the service or item out of pocket in full.
- Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to ask that we communicate with you about your PHI in other ways or locations. This right only applies if the information could endanger you if it is not communicated in other ways or locations. You do not have to explain the reason for your request. However, you must state that the information could endanger you if the change is not made. We must work with your request if it is reasonable and states the other way or location where you PHI should be delivered.
- Right to Access and Received Copy of your PHI. You have the right, with limited exceptions, to look at or get copies of your PHI contained in a designated record set. You must ask in writing to get access to your PHI. If we deny your request, we will give you a written explanation. We will tell you if the reasons for the denial can be reviewed. We will also let you know how to ask for a review or if the denial cannot be reviewed.
- Right to Change your PHI. You have the right to ask that we change your PHI if you believe it has wrong information. You must ask in writing. You must explain why the information should be changed. We may deny your request for certain reasons. For example, if we did not create the information you want changed and the creator of the PHI is able to perform the change. If we deny your request, we will provide you a written explanation. You may respond with a

statement that you disagree with our decision. We will attach your statement to the PHI you ask that we change. If we accept your request to change the information, we will make reasonable efforts to inform others of the change. This includes people you name. We will also make the effort to include the changes in any future disclosures of that information.

- Right to Receive an Accounting of Disclosures. You have the right to get a list of times within the last 6-year period in which we or our business associates disclosed your PHI. This does not apply to disclosure for purposes of treatment, payment, healthcare operations, or disclosures you authorized and certain other activities.
- Right to File a Complaint. If you feel your privacy rights have been violated or that we have violated our own privacy practices, you can file a complaint with us. You can also do this by phone. Use the contact information at the end of this Notice. You can also submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). See the contact information on the HHS website at www.hhs.gov/ocr. If you request, we will provide you with the address to file a written complaint with HHS. WE WILL NOT TAKE ANY ACTION AGAINST YOU FOR FILING A COMPLAINT.
- Right to Receive a Copy of this Notice. You may ask for a copy of our Notice at any time. Use the contact information listed at the end of the Notice.

#### **Contact Information**

If you have any questions about this Notice, our privacy practices related to your PHI or how to exercise your rights you can contact us in writing. You can also contact us by phone. Use the contact information listed below.

#### **Broadstep**

Attn: Privacy Official 1744 N. Farwell Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202

Office phone: 414-225-4460, ext. 1039

### **Security/Confidentiality**

No transmission of data over the Internet or any wireless network can be guaranteed to be 100% secure. We will, however, use a number of physical security methods, electronic security methods, and administrative methods to protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of information submitted through this Web site.

## Information Collection and Storage

Personally Identifiable Information: We do not purposely collect information that personally identifies you unless you choose to provide it to us. The personal information you submit is shared only with those people within our organization who need this information to respond to your question or request. As used in this Privacy Statement, personal information does not include information protected under HIPAA or applicable state laws, which is protected as described in the section "Health and Medical Information" above.

### **Email**

Most email does not provide a completely secure and confidential means of communication. It is possible that your email could be viewed inappropriately by another Internet user. If you choose to provide us with your email address or to send us information using email, any misaddressing may result in others intercepting, altering, forwarding or using the information without authorization. If you wish to keep your information completely private, you should not use email.

From time to time, a representative from Broadstep may wish to deliver information to you via email. In addition, Broadstep may occasionally distribute news and announcements via email. Please note, we do not sell, trade, or otherwise share our email lists with others. You may remove your name from any list you have registered for using our website's established method. With regard to your use of email, we warn that:

If you receive email at work, your employer may have the right to save and read your email; similarly, your Internet service provider may have the right to

save and read your email. If you share your email account, others may view your emails.

It is possible to intercept and read email during transmission.

### **Printing or Downloading Information**

Unless otherwise stated, you may print or download information from our website for personal, noncommercial use only. You must, however, identify the source of the material and include a statement that the materials are protected by copyright law.

# **Disclaimer of Warranties, Content Accuracy**

Although Broadstep attempts to ensure the integrity and accurateness of the Site, it makes no representations, warranties or guarantees whatsoever as to the correctness or accuracy of the Site and Content thereon. It is possible that the Site could include typographical errors, inaccuracies or other errors, and that unauthorized additions, deletions and alterations could be made to the Site by third parties.