

**Dr. Francis X. Amato III, DMD, MICOI • Amato Dentistry™**

Master, International Congress of Oral Implantologists • Member, American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry  
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**NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES /**

**HIPAA COMPLIANCE / INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS**

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY  
BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION.

*PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.*

THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT

**Consent for Internet Communications**

I grant my permission to the dental practice to upload and store confidential patient information (including account information, appointment information and clinical information) to the secured web site for the dental practice. I understand that, for security purposes, the site requires a user ID and password for access and use. I also understand the dental practice and I are responsible for maintaining the strict confidentiality of any ID and password assigned to me; and that the dental practice is not liable for any charges, damages, or losses that may be incurred or suffered as a result of my failure to maintain confidentiality. I understand the dental practice is not liable for any harm related to the theft of my ID and password, my disclosure of my ID and password, or my authorization to allow another person or entity to access and use the dental practice web site with my ID and password. I also agree to immediately notify the dental practice of any unauthorized use of my ID or of any other need to deactivate my ID due to security concerns.

I also understand that State and Federal laws, as well as ethical and licensure requirements impose obligations with respect to patient confidentiality that limit the ability to make use of certain services or to transmit certain information to third parties. I understand the dental practice will represent and warrant that they will, at all times during the terms of this Agreement and thereafter, comply with all laws directly or indirectly applicable that may now or hereafter govern the gathering, use, transmission, processing, receipt, reporting, disclosure, maintenance, and storage of my information, and use their best efforts to cause all persons or entities under their direction or control to comply with such laws. I agree that the dental practice has the right to monitor, retrieve, store, upload and use my information in connection with the operation of such services, and is acting on my behalf in uploading my patient information. I understand the dental practice will use commercially reasonable efforts to maintain the confidentiality of all patient information that is uploaded to the web site on my behalf. I understand the dental practice CANNOT AND DOES NOT ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY USE OR MISUSE OF PATIENT INFORMATION OR OTHER INFORMATION TRANSMITTED, MONITORED, STORED, UPLOADED OR RECEIVED USING THE SITE OR THE SERVICES.

I have read the information above regarding the secured uploading of patient information to the web site for the dental practice, and grant the dental practice permission to securely upload my patient information to the web site.

**HIPAA Privacy Practices Notice**

NOTICE OF HIPAA PRIVACY PRACTICES: THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY. THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT!  
OUR LEGAL DUTY

We are required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your health information. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect January 1, 2012 and will remain in effect until we replace it. We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law. We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our Notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we made the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and make the new Notice available upon request. You may

request a copy of our Notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this Notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice.

#### USES AND DISCLOSURE OF HEALTH INFORMATION

We use and disclose health information about you for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations. For example:

**Treatment:** We may use or disclose your health information to a physician or other healthcare provider providing treatment to you.

**Payment:** We may use and disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide to you.

**Healthcare Operation:** We may use and disclose your health information in connection with our healthcare operations. Healthcare operations include quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the competence or qualifications of healthcare professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities.

**Your Authorization:** In addition to our use of your health information for treatment, payment or healthcare operations, you may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosure permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice.

**To Your Family and Friends:** We must disclose your health information to you, as described in the Patient Rights section of this Notice. We may disclose your health information to a family member, friend or other person to the extent necessary to help with your healthcare or with payment for your healthcare, but only if you agree that we may do so.

**Persons Involved In Care:** We may use or disclose health information to notify, or assist in the notification of (including identifying or locating) a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of your location, your general condition, or death. If you are present, then prior to use or disclosure of your health information, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to such uses or disclosures. In the event of your incapacity or emergency circumstances, we will disclose health information based on a determination using our professional judgment disclosing only health information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your healthcare. We will also use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of health information.

**Required by Law:** We may use or disclose your health information when we are required to do so by law.

**Abuse or Neglect:** We may disclose your health information to appropriate authorities if we reasonably believe that you are a possible victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence or the possible victim of other crimes. We may disclose your health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of others.

**National Security:** We may disclose to military authorities the health information of Armed Forces personnel under certain circumstances. We may disclose to authorized federal officials health information required for lawful intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities. We may disclose to correctional institution or law enforcement official having lawful custody of protected health information of inmate or patient under certain circumstances.

**Appointment Reminders:** We may provide you with appointment reminders (such as voicemail messages, postcards, or letter).

We will NOT use your health information for marketing communications without your written authorization.

## **PATIENT RIGHTS**

**Access:** You have the right to look at or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies. You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. You may obtain a form to request access by using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. We will charge you a reasonable cost-based fee for expenses such as copies and staff time. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this Notice. If you request copies, we will charge you \$.50 for each page, \$25.00 per hour for staff time to locate and copy your health information, and postage if you want the copies mailed to you.

**Disclosure Accounting:** You have the right to receive a list of instances in which we or our business associates disclosed your health information for purposes, other than treatment, payment, healthcare operations and certain other activities. If you request this accounting more than once in a twelve month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests.

**Restriction:** You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your health information. We are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in an emergency).

**Alternative Communication:** You have the right to request that we communicate with you about your health information by alternative means or to alternative locations. (You must make your request in writing.) Your request must specify the alternative means or location, and provide satisfactory explanation how payments will be handled under the alternative means or location you request.

**Amendment:** You have the right to request that we amend your health information. (Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why the information should be amended.) We may deny your request under certain circumstances.  
**Questions:** If you want more information about our privacy practices or have questions please contact us.

**Concerns:** If you are concerned that we may have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your health information or in response to a request you made to amend or restrict the use or disclosure of your health information or to have us using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. You also may submit a written complaint to the US Department of Health and Human Services.

We support your right to the privacy of your health information!

Contact Practice Manager:

Gena Amato, 4 Crescent Drive, West Jefferson, NC 28694-7375, PHONE: 336-246-7473 FAX: 833-791-0702 toll-free fax  
E-Mail Address: [office@amatodentistry.com](mailto:office@amatodentistry.com)

## **HIPAA Acknowledgment**

I understand that I may inspect or copy the protected health information described by this authorization (See HIPAA Disclosure Below).

I understand that at any time, this authorization may be revoked, when the office that receives this authorization receives a written revocation, although that revocation will not be effective as to the disclosure of records whose release I have previously authorized, or where other action has been taken in reliance on an authorization I have signed. I understand that my health care and the payment for my healthcare will not be affected if I refuse to sign this form.

I understand that information used or disclosed, pursuant to this authorization, could be subject to re-disclosure by the recipient and, if so, may not be subject to federal or state law protecting its confidentiality.

I understand the above information and agree with its contents, and when I complete my new patient paperwork, my actual or electronic signature will function as my signature for the HIPAA Disclosure Form.