

DISCLOSURE OF MEDICAL INFORMATION

MFMEC may use medical information about patients to provide them with medical treatment or services. Example: In treating patients for a specific condition, MFMEC may need to know if patients have allergies that could influence which medications MFMEC prescribes for the treatment process.

MFMEC may use and disclose medical information about patients so that the treatment and services patients receive from MFMEC may be billed and payment may be collected from patients, an insurance company, or third party. Example: MFMEC may need to send patients' protected health information, such as name, address, office visit date, and codes identifying diagnoses and treatment, to patients' insurance company for payment.

MFMEC may use and disclose medical information about patients for health care operations to assure that patients receive quality care. Example: MFMEC may use medical information to review its treatment and services and evaluate the performance of its staff in caring for patients.

Other uses or disclosures that can be made without a patient's consent or authorization include:

- As required during an investigation by law enforcement agencies
- To avert a serious threat to public health or safety
- As required by military command authorities for their medical records
- To workers' compensation or similar programs for processing of claims
- In response to a legal proceeding
- To a coroner or medical examiner for identification of a body
- If an inmate, to the correction institution or law enforcement official
- As required by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- Other healthcare providers' payment activities
- Other covered entities' and providers' payment activities
- Other covered entities' healthcare operations activities (to the extent permitted under HIPAA)
- Uses and disclosures required by law
- Uses and disclosures in domestic violence or neglect situations
- Health oversight activities
- Other public health activities

MFMEC may contact patients to provide appointment reminders or information about treatment alternatives or other health related benefits and services that may be of interest to patients.

Uses and disclosures of protected health information requiring patient written authorization:

Other uses and disclosures of medical information not covered by this notice or the laws that apply to MFMEC will be made only with patients written authorizations. If patients give MFMEC authorization to use or disclose medical information about them, they may revoke that authorization, in writing, at any time. If patients revoke their authorization, MFMEC will thereafter no longer use or disclose medical information about patients for the reasons covered by patients' written authorization. MFMEC is unable to take back any disclosures it has already made with patients' authorization and is required to retain its records of the care it has provided patients.