**CommuniCare+OLE Notice of Privacy Practices**

**Introduction**

This Notice of Privacy Practices describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully.

**Our Commitment to Your Privacy**

* We are committed to maintaining the privacy of your health information.
* We follow all applicable federal and state laws regarding the privacy of health information.
* This notice applies to all protected health information (PHI) maintained by CommuniCare+OLE

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

We may use and disclose your health information for the following purposes:

1. **Treatment**: We may use your health information to provide you with medical treatment and services.
2. **Payment**: We may use and disclose your health information to bill and collect payment for the services provided to you.
3. **Healthcare Operations**: We may use and disclose your health information for our healthcare operations, such as quality improvement, training, and administrative purposes.
4. **Required by Law**: We may use and disclose your health information when required by law.
5. **Public Health Activities**: We may disclose your health information for public health activities, such as disease prevention and reporting.
6. **Research**: We may use or disclose your health information for research purposes, but only with your consent or as permitted by law.
7. **Other Uses and Disclosures**: We may use or disclose your health information for other purposes not listed above, but only with your authorization.
8. **Restricted PHI:** There are stricter requirements for use and disclosure of some types of PHI—for example, mental health and drug and alcohol abuse patient information, HIV tests, and genetic testing information. However, there are still circumstances in which these types of information may be used or disclosed without your authorization. If you become a patient in our chemical dependency program, we will give you a separate written notice, as required by law, about your privacy rights for your chemical dependency program Restricted types of PHI: There are stricter requirements for use and disclosure of some types of PHI—for example, mental health and drug and alcohol abuse patient information, HIV tests, and genetic testing information. However, there are still circumstances in which these types of information may be used or disclosed without your authorization. If you become a patient in our chemical dependency program, we will give you a separate written notice, as required by law, about your privacy rights for your chemical dependency program PHI.
9. **Immediate Threat:** If there is an **Immediate Threat**. Restricted PHI and Medical information may be disclosed without consent.

**Organized Health Care Arrangement**

CommuniCare+OLE is a member of an organized care arrangement (OCHIN). Other member organizations can be found here <http://ochin.org/member-portal/ochin-members/>. Unauthorized access to CommuniCare+OLE patient records is continuously monitored.

CommuniCare+OLE is part of an organized health care arrangement including participants in OCHIN. A current list of OCHIN participants is available at [www.ochin.org](http://www.ochin.org/) as a business associate of CommuniCare+OLE.  OCHIN supplies information technology and related services to CommuniCare+OLE and other OCHIN participants. OCHIN also engages in quality assessment and improvement activities on behalf of its participants. For example, OCHIN coordinates clinical review activities on behalf of participating organizations to establish best practice standards and assess clinical benefits that may be derived from the use of electronic health record systems. OCHIN also helps participants work collaboratively to improve the management of internal and external patient referrals. Your health information may be shared by CommuniCare+OLE with other OCHIN participants when necessary for health care operation purposes of the organized health care arrangement.

Health care operations can include, among other things, geocoding your residence location to improve the clinical benefits you receive. The personal health information may include past, present, and future medical information as well as information outlined in the Privacy Rules. The information, to the extent disclosed, will be disclosed consistent with the Privacy Rules or any other applicable law as amended from time to time. You have the right to change your mind and withdraw consent, however, the information may have already been provided as allowed by you. This consent will remain in effect until revoked by you in writing. If requested, you will be provided a list of entities to which your information has been disclosed.

CommuniCare+OLE may participate in one or more health information exchanges (HIEs). HIEs may electronically share medical information for treatment, payment and health care operation purposes with other participants in the HIEs. HIEs allow your health care providers to quickly access and use medical information necessary for your treatment and other lawful purposes. The addition of your medical information in a HIE is voluntary and subject to your right to opt-out. If you would like to opt-out, contact the CommuniCare+OLE Health Information Department as listed below.

**Your Rights**

You have the following rights regarding your health information:

* **Right to Access**: You have the right to access your health information.
* **Right to Request Restrictions**: You can request restrictions on how your health information is used or disclosed.
* **Right to Amend**: You can request amendments to your health information if you believe it is incorrect.
* **Right to an Accounting of Disclosures**: You can request a list of disclosures of your health information.
* **Right to Request Confidential Communications**: You can request that we communicate with you in a certain way or at a specific location.
* **Right to File a Complaint**: If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with us by calling the CommuniCare+OLE Health Information Department (707-254-1770) or (530) 758-2060 or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service