

Dear Patient,

Our office is pleased to have the opportunity to continue serving you. Our primary mission is to provide you with quality, cost effective medical care. Together, we (patients and physicians) are trying to adapt to the changing way healthcare is financed and delivered. The following letter outlines some of the financial and procedural steps that are required by your insurance or managed care plan.

Payment Guidelines:

- We must collect any co-payments, co-insurance, and/or deductibles at the time of service, unless other arrangements have been made in advance with our office.
- We accept **Cash, Checks, Money Orders and Credit Cards** (Visa, Master Card. American Express and Discover).
- The remainder of your bill will be sent to your insurance company for payment to our office.
- If, by mistake, your insurance company remits the payment to you, please send it to us, along with all the paperwork that has been sent to you. Please DO NOT send the payment back to the insurance company.
- Any balance that your insurance company determines to be your financial responsibility will be billed to you. Payment in full is due upon receipt of you first statement.

When to Present Insurance Card:

Please present your insurance card at **EACH VISIT**. Specifically bring to our attention any changes (new card, new subscriber or group #, ect.) since your last visit. This protects you from paying a bill due to wrong insurance information. There is a narrow window (30-45 days) to present an accurate claim to the correct insurance company. Failure to do so could mean the claim may be denied. In addition, if you have secondary insurance, it will be filed on your behalf as a courtesy. However, if we have not received payment from your secondary insurance in a timely manner, the balance will become your responsibility.

Why Insurance Companies Denies Payments:

Sometimes your insurance company will refuse payment of a claim for some of the following reasons...

- 1. This is a pre-existing illness or condition that they do not cover.
- 2. You have not met your full calendar year deductible.
- 3. The type of medical services required is not covered.
- 4. The insurance was not in effect at the time of service.
- 5. You have other insurance that must be filed first.
- 6. You did not have the referral # for your visit/service.
- 7. You have exceeded your maximum dollar/visit amount.

If your insurance company denies your claim for any reason including the above, our office cannot be responsible for the bill. It is your responsibility to pay the denied amounts in full at the time of billing. We value you as a patient and we are eager to serve you! Our first priority is to provide you with the best possible care. If you would like to contact our billing office, you may reach them at 214-689-3829 or 800-425-3759.

Sincerely, Digestive Health Associates of Texas P.A. (DHAT)

I have read and understand my financial obligations. DHAT/DHM may file a claim for services rendered by the physician, facility, pathologist, and/or anesthesiologist. DHAT/DHM is authorized to transfer any patient over payment to one of these associated entities if applicable. I understand that I will be fully responsible for the payment in full at the time of billing and all the medical services denied by my insurance company or determined to be a portion of the billed charges.

Patient Signature



Patient Information

Physician you are seeing:		Referred	Ву:		
Patient Name:		Date of Bi	rth:	Age:	
Address:Street		City		State	Zip
Primary #:	Ce	II #:		Work <u>#:</u>	
Patient Social Security #:	E-r	mail Address:			
Marital Status: Single Married	Divorce	Separated	Widowed	Domestic Par	tner
Employer:		(Occupation:		
Primary Language:		Secondar	y Language:		
E	mergency Co	ntact Informat	ion		
Emergency Contact Name:			Relatio	onship:	
Primary #:	Ce	II #:		Work <u>#:</u>	
	Pharmacy	Information			
Pharmacy Name and Address:					
Pharmacy #:			Co	nsent for Externa	ll Rx History

Consent for Medical Treatment

I, the undersigned, as the patient (or the patient's duly authorized representative) do hereby voluntarily consent to and authorize medical care encompassing all diagnostic and therapeutic treatments considered necessary or advisable in the judgment of the physician, his assistants or designees.

I am aware that the practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science and acknowledge that no guarantees have been made to me as to the result of treatment or examinations performed.

This form has been fully explained to me and I understand and except the contents with my signature below.

All the above will be discussed with me, the parent or authorized guardian, by the physician prior to any proposed treatments, testing or surgical procedures being scheduled.

It is very important that you notify our office of any cancellations as early as possible, so that your appointment can be offered to another patient. Your cooperation is appreciated in this matter.

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the Consent for Medical Treatment, and I have received a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices for <u>Digestive Health Associates of Texas P.A.</u>

Patient Signature



Insurance/Financial Information

Primary Insurance:				
Name of Insurance:		Phon	e:	
Claims				
Address:				
Street	City		State	Zip
Subscriber #:		Group #:		
Subscriber Name if				
Other than Patient:		Date	of Birth:	
Relationship to Patient:				
Secondary Insurance:				
Name of Insurance:		Phon	e:	
Claims				
Address:				
Street	City		State	Zip
Subscriber #:		Group #:		
Subscriber Name if				
Other than Patient:		Date	of Birth:	
Relationship to Patient:				

Assignments of Benefits

To the best of my knowledge, the above information is complete and correct. I understand that it is my responsibility to inform the facility of any changes to my contact and/or insurance information. I understand that I am responsible for payment of professional services at the time they are rendered and that I am responsible for any amount not covered by insurance including, without limitation, deductible, co-payment, co-insurance, or other amounts determined by my insurance company to be my responsibility, and any collection/attorney fees incurred in collecting that balance. I assign to the provider all payment for medical services rendered to me for services filed to my insurance on my behalf. Balances that remain unpaid after 90 days from the date first billed may be referred to an outside collection agency for further collection efforts. I understand that if paying by check and it is dishonored, or paying by credit card and an invalid dispute leading to chargeback occurs, a processing fee of \$30 will be assessed. DHAT may use my health care information and may disclose such information to the above named insurance company and their agents for the purpose of obtaining payment for service and determining insurance benefits or the benefits payable for related services. This assignment will remain in effect until revoked by me in writing. A photocopy of this assignment is to be considered as valid as an original.



Patient Authorization for Person Representation

Purpose of Request: I authorize <u>Digestive Health Associates of Texas, P.A.</u> to disclose or provide my Protected Health Information (PHI) to the following individual, who is authorized to act as my personal representative for the purpose of receiving all PHI about myself. As my designated personal representative, they may exercise my right to inspect, copy, and/or correct my PHI. They may also consent or authorize the use or disclosure of my PHI.

Name of Persor	Representative and	d Relationship to the Patient	
Nume of Fersor	i nepi escritative ane		

Phone

E-mail

I authorize disclosure of the following PHI to my Designated Personal Representative:

Procedures & Biopsies Labs All Information

Patient Authorization for Communication through Alternative means

I authorize <u>Digestive Health Associates of Texas P.A.</u> (DHAT/DHM) to communicate my protected health information (PHI) in the manner indicated below. I understand that it is my responsibility to notify DHAT of any changes in this manner of communications and that any disclosure made to the designated address or number, indicated by me is subject to the re-disclosure statement within this authorization.

(Check All That Apply)

Primary# Cell# Work # Fax # U.S. Mail E-m

Leave a detailed message on my answering machine/voice-mail. Leave a brief message with only a call back number, the staff member's name and the name of the

office on my answering machine/voice-mail.

Expiration or termination of authorization – This authorization will remain in effect until terminated by the patient, the patient's personal representative, or another individual of legal entity authorized to do so by a court of law.

Right to revoke or terminate – As stated in our Notice of Privacy Practices, you have the right to revoke or terminate this authorization by submitting a written request to our Privacy Officer. This can be done in person or by mailing a request to:

Digestive Health Associates of Texas P.A. 7610 Stemmons Frwy. Suite 500 Dallas, Texas 75247 Attention: Privacy Officer

Re-disclosure Statement – I understand that the practice has no control regarding persons who may have access to the mailing address, telephone, cell phone, or fax that I have designated to receive my PHI. Therefore, I understand that re-disclosure of my PHI under this authorization is not the responsibility of <u>Digestive Health</u> <u>Associates of Texas, P.A.</u>

	Digestiv	e Healt	4 7 h Associ	iates					
Patient's Name:				_	Date of	Birth:			
	Height		Weight		_				
	Upda	ted Patio	ent Histor	y					
Current Medications – Please li Medicines or Herbs.	st any medications	s you are (CURRENTLY	' taking,	including	Vitam	ins and Alter	native	
Name and Dose of Medication:									
Drug or Food Allergies/Intolera	ince and Reaction	5:		None					
	Updated S	Surgical/	Hospitaliza	ations					
Date Hospital Name	e Hospital Name/Location		Doctor's Name			Reason			
					_				
					_				
Have you ever had a blood transfusion?			Yes		No	Date:			
lave you ever had a colonosco	py? No	Yes (D	ate:)	Polyps		Yes	No	
		Social Hi	story						
Do you have any tattoos?	Yes	No							
o you have any piercings?	Yes	No		Where					
obacco Status:	Current Smoke	er	Former	Smoker		Neve	r Smoked		
Alcohol Consumption:	Every Day		Some Days			Never			
llicit Drug Use:	Current User		Former		Former User		Never Used		
Caffeine Consumption:									
lave you recently traveled out	side the United St	ates?	Yes	No	Wher	e?			
				_	Data				
Patient Signature					Date			5	



Notice of Privacy Practices

This notice describes how <u>Digestive Health Associates of Texas, P.A.</u> may use and disclose medical information about you, and about how you can gain access to this information. Please review this document carefully.

Protected health information (PHI), about you, is maintained as a written and/or electronic record of your contacts or visits for healthcare services with our practice. Specifically, PHI is information about you, including demographic information (i.e., name, address, phone, etc.), that may identify you and relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health condition and related healthcare services.

DIGESTIVE HEALTH ASSOCIATES OF TEXAS, P.A. is required to follow specific rules on maintaining the confidentiality of your PHI, using your information, and disclosing or sharing this information with other healthcare professionals involved in your care and treatment. This Notice describes your rights to access and control your PHI. It also describes how we follow applicable rules and use and disclose your PHI to provide your treatment, obtain payment for services you receive, manage our healthcare operations and for other purposes that are permitted or required by law.

Your rights under the Privacy Rule

Following is a statement of your rights, under the Privacy Rule, in reference to your PHI. Please feel free to discuss any questions with our staff.

You have the right to receive, and we are required to provide you with, a copy of this Notice of Privacy Practices - We are required to follow the terms of this notice. We reserve the right to change the terms of our notice, at any time. Uponyour request, we will provide you with a revised Notice of Privacy Practices if you call our office and request that a revised copy be sent to you in the mail or ask for one at the time of your next appointment. The Notice will also be posted in aconspicuous location within the practice, and if such is maintained by the practice, on its website. You have the right to authorize other use and disclosure - This means you have the right to authorize any use or disclosure of PHI that is not specified within this notice. For example, we would need your written authorization to use or disclose your PHI for marketing purposes, for most uses or disclosures of psychotherapy notes, or if we intended to sell your PHI. You may revoke an authorization, at any time, in writing, except to the extent that your healthcare provider, or our practice has takenan action in reliance on the use or disclosure indicated in the authorization.

You have the right to request an alternative means of confidential communication – This means you have the right to ask us to contact you about medical matters using an alternative method (i.e., email, telephone), and to a destination (i.e., cell phone number, alternative address, etc.) designated by you. You must inform us in writing, using a form provided by our practice, how you wish to be contacted if other than the address/phone number that we have on file. We will follow all reasonable requests.

You have the right to inspect and copy your PHI - This means you may inspect, and obtain a copy of your complete health record. If your health record is maintained electronically, you will also have the right to request a copy in electronic format. We have the right to charge a reasonable fee for paper or electronic copies as established by professional, state, or federal guidelines.

You have the right to request a restriction of your PHI - This means you may ask us, in writing, not to use or disclose any part of your protected health information for the purposes of treatment, payment or healthcare operations. If we agree to the requested restriction, we will abide by it, except in emergency circumstances when the information is needed for your treatment. In certain cases, we may deny your request for a restriction. You will have the right to request, in writing, that we restrict communication to your health plan regarding a specific treatment or service that you, or someone on your behalf, has paid for in full, out-of-pocket. We are not permitted to deny this specific type of requested restriction. You may have the right to request an amendment of your PHI for as long as we maintain this information. In certain cases, we may deny your request.

You have the right to request disclosure accountability - This means that you may request a listing of disclosures that we have made, of your PHI, to entities or persons outside of our office.

You have the right to receive a privacy breach notice - You have the right to receive written notification if the practice discovers a breach of your unsecured PHI, and determines through a risk assessment that notification is required. If you have questions regarding your privacy rights, please feel free to contact our Privacy Manager. Contact information is provided on the following page under Privacy Complaints.

How We May Use or Disclose Protected HealthInformation

Following are examples of uses and disclosures of your protected health information that we are permitted to make. These examples are not meant to be exhaustive, but to describe possible types of uses and disclosures.

Treatment - We may use and disclose your PHI to provide, coordinate, or manage your healthcare and any related services. This includes the coordination or management of your healthcare with a third party that is involved in your care and treatment. For example, we would disclose your PHI, as necessary, to a pharmacy that would fill your prescriptions. We will also disclose PHI to other Healthcare Providers who may be involved in your care and treatment.

Special Notices - We may use or disclose your PHI, as necessary, to contact you to remind you of your appointment. We may contact you by phone or other means to provide results from exams or tests and to provide information that describes or recommends treatment alternatives regarding your care. Also, we may contact you to provide information about health-related benefits and services offered by our office, for fund-raising activities, or with respect to a group health plan, to disclose information to the health plan sponsor. You will have the right to opt out of such special notices, and each such notice will include instructions for opting out.

Payment - Your PHI will be used, as needed, to obtain payment for your healthcare services. This may include certain activities that your health insurance plan may undertake before it approves or pays for the healthcare services we recommend for you such as, making a determination of eligibility or coverage for insurance benefits. **Healthcare Operations** - We may use or disclose, as needed, your PHI in order to support the business activities of our practice. This includes, but is not limited to business planning and development, quality assessment and improvement, medical review, legal services, auditing functions and patient safety activities.

Health Information Organization - The practice may elect to use a health information organization, or other such organization to facilitate the electronic exchange of information for the purposes of treatment, payment, or healthcare operations.

To Others Involved in Your Healthcare - Unless you object, we may disclose to a member of your family, a relative, a close friend or any other person, that you identify, your PHI that directly relates to that person's involvement in your healthcare. If you are unable to agree or object to such a disclosure, we may disclose such information as necessary if we determine that it is in your best interest based on our professional judgment. We may use or disclose PHI to notify or assist in notifying a family member, personal representative or any other person that is responsible for your care, of your general condition or death. If you are not present or able to agree or object to the use or disclosure of the PHI, then your healthcare provider may, using professional judgment, determine whether the disclosure is in yourbest interest. In this case, only the PHI that is necessary will be disclosed. Other Permitted and Required Uses and Disclosures - We are also permitted to use or disclose your PHI without your written authorization for the following purposes: as required by law; for public health activities; health oversight activities; in cases of abuse or neglect; to comply with Food and Drug Administrationrequirements; research purposes; legal proceedings; law enforcement purposes; coroners; funeral directors; organ donation; criminal activity; military activity; nationalsecurity; worker's compensation; when an immate in a correctional facility; and if requested by the Department of Health and Human Services in order to investigate or determine our compliance with the requirements of the Privacy Rule.

Privacy Complaints

You have the right to complain to us, or directly to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services if you believe your privacy rights have been violated by us. You may file a complaint with us by notifying the Privacy Officer at <u>214-689-5960</u>. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.