# **HIPAA PRIVACY NOTICE**

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Summary: The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) requires health plans to notify plan participants and beneficiaries about its policies and practices to protect the confidentiality of their health information. This document is intended to satisfy HIPAA's notice requirement with respect to all health information created, received, or maintained by the group health plan components of the Newell Brands Health and Welfare Program (the "Plan") sponsored by Newell Operating Company. The Plan needs to create, receive, and maintain records that contain health information about you to administer the Plan and provide you with health care benefits. This notice describes the Plan's health information privacy policy with respect to your self-insured Medical, Prescription Drug, Dental, Vision, EAP Health Care FSA as well as HSA, Wellness and Tobacco Cessation programs. The notice tells you the ways the Plan may use and disclose health information about you, describes your rights, and the obligations the Plan has regarding the use and disclosure of your health information. However, it does not address the health information policies or practices of your health care providers. Also, if you participate in an insured health plan, you should receive a separate HIPAA Privacy Notice directly from the insurer describing the insured health plan's health information privacy practices.

# Privacy Obligations of the Plan

The Plan is required by law to:

- make sure that health information that identifies you is kept private;
- give you this notice of the Plan's legal duties and privacy practices with respect to health information about you; and
- follow the terms of the notice that is currently in effect.

Further, when and as required, the Plan will notify you in the event of a breach of your unsecured "protected health information" (PHI).

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

Your PHI will not be used or disclosed without a written authorization from you, except as described in this notice or as otherwise permitted by federal and state health information privacy laws. Your written authorization is also required for:

- Use or disclosure of psychotherapy notes. Psychotherapy notes are notes recorded by a health care
  provider who is a mental health professional documenting or analyzing the contents of conversation
  during a counseling session, and that are separated from the rest of your medical record. They do not
  include summary information about your mental health treatment. The Plan may use and disclose
  such notes when needed by the Plan to defend against litigation filed by you.
- Uses or disclosures of your PHI for marketing purposes. Marketing does not include communications, involving no financial remuneration, for certain treatment or health care operations purposes, such as communications about entities that participate in a health plan network, health plan enhancements or replacements, case management or care coordination, or contacting individuals about treatment alternatives; and
- Disclosures of PHI that are considered a sale of PHI under the HIPAA privacy regulations.

If you authorize the Plan to use or disclose your PHI, you may revoke your authorization at any time by submitting a written request to the Contact Person. If you revoke your authorization, the Plan will no longer use or disclose your PHI for the reasons covered by your written authorization. However, your revocation will not affect any uses or disclosures the Plan has already made prior to the date the Plan receives written notice of the revocation.

## How the Plan May Use and Disclose Health Information About You

The following are the different ways the Plan and its business associates may use and disclose your PHI without your consent, authorization or opportunity to agree or object:

- For Treatment. Treatment is the provision, coordination or management of health care and related services. It also includes, but is not limited to, consultations and referrals between one or more of your providers. The Plan may disclose your PHI to a health care provider who renders treatment on your behalf. For example, if you are unable to provide your medical history as the result of an accident, the Plan may advise an emergency room physician about the types of prescription drugs you currently take.
- For Payment. Payment includes but is not limited to actions to make coverage determinations, provide benefits, and payment (including billing, claims management or adjudication, claims appeals determinations, coordination of benefits with another health plan, subrogation, Plan reimbursement, reviews for medical necessity and appropriateness of care, utilization review, pre-certification or preauthorizations). The Plan may use and disclose your PHI so claims for health care treatment, services, and supplies you receive from health care providers may be paid according to the Plan's terms. For example, the Plan may receive and maintain information about surgery you received to enable the Plan to process a hospital's claim for reimbursement of surgical expenses incurred on your behalf.
- For Health Care Operations. Health care operations include, but are not limited to, quality assessment and improvement, reviewing competence or qualifications of health care professionals, evaluating health plan performance, underwriting, enrollment, premium rating and other insurance activities related to creating, renewing or replacing a health insurance or health benefits contract or a stop-loss or excess loss insurance contract. It also includes disease management, case management, conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services and auditing functions including fraud and abuse compliance programs, population-based activities related to improving health or reducing health care costs, business planning and development, business management, and general administrative activities. The Plan may use and disclose your PHI to enable it to operate or operate more efficiently or make certain all of the Plan's participants receive their health benefits. For example, the Plan may use your PHI for case management or to perform population-based studies designed to reduce health care costs. In addition, the Plan may use or disclose your PHI to conduct compliance reviews, audits, actuarial studies, and/or for fraud and abuse detection. The Plan may also combine health information about many Plan participants and disclose it to Newell Operating Company in its role as a Plan Sponsor in summary fashion so it can decide what coverages the Plan should provide.
- To Newell Operating Company. The Plan may disclose your PHI to designated personnel so they can carry out their Plan-related administrative functions, including the uses and disclosures described in this notice. Newell Operating Company is the Plan Sponsor of the Plan and disclosures mentioned in this section are disclosures to the Plan Sponsor. These individuals will protect the privacy of your health information and ensure it is used only as described in this notice or as permitted by law. Unless authorized by you in writing, your health information: (1) may not be disclosed by the Plan to any other Newell Brands employee or department and (2) will not be used by Newell Brands for any employment-related actions and decisions or in connection with any of its other employee benefit plans Newell Operating Company has amended its Plan documents to protect your PHI as required by federal law.

- To a Business Associate. Certain services are provided to the Plan by third party administrators known as "business associates." For example, the Plan may input information about your health care treatment into an electronic claims processing system maintained by the Plan's business associate so your claim may be paid. In so doing, the Plan will disclose your PHI to its business associate so it can perform its claims payment function. However, the Plan will require its business associates, through contract, to appropriately safeguard your health information.
- Treatment Alternatives. The Plan may use and disclose your PHI to tell you about possible treatment options or alternatives that may be of interest to you.
- **Health-Related Benefits and Services.** The Plan may use and disclose your PHI to tell you about health-related benefits or services that may be of interest to you.
- Individual Involved in Your Care or Payment of Your Care. The Plan may disclose PHI to a close
  friend or family member involved in or who helps pay for your health care. The Plan may also advise
  a family member or close friend about your condition, your location (for example, that you are in the
  hospital), or death. You will be given an opportunity to agree with or object to this disclosure to
  individuals involved in your care or payment of your care.
- As Required by Law. The Plan will disclose your PHI when required to do so by federal, state, or
  local law and the use or disclosure complies with the law and is limited to the relevant requirements of
  such law, including those that require the reporting of certain types of wounds or physical injuries.

Note: The Plan does not use or disclose PHI that is genetic information for to decide whether to give you coverage or the price of that coverage.

## Special Use and Disclosure Situations

The Plan may also use or disclose your PHI without your consent, authorization or opportunity to agree or object under the following circumstances:

- Lawsuits and Disputes. If you become involved in a lawsuit or other legal action, the Plan may
  disclose your PHI in response to a court or administrative order, a subpoena, warrant, discovery
  request, or other lawful due process provided certain conditions are met.
- Law Enforcement. The Plan may release your PHI if asked to do so by a law enforcement official, for example, to identify or locate a suspect, material witness, or missing person or to report a crime, the crime's location or victims, or the identity, description, or location of the person who committed the crime.
- Workers' Compensation. The Plan may disclose your PHI to the extent authorized by and to the extent necessary to comply with workers' compensation laws and other similar programs.
- **Military and Veterans.** If you are or become a member of the U.S. armed forces, the Plan may release medical information about you as deemed necessary by military command authorities.
- To Avert Serious Threat to Health or Safety. When consistent with applicable law and standards of ethical conduct, the Plan may use and disclose your PHI when necessary to prevent a serious threat to your health and safety, or the health and safety of the public or another person.
- Public Health Activities. The Plan may disclose health information about you for public heath
  activities, including to assist public health authorities or other legal authorities to prevent or control
  disease, injury or disability; reporting births and deaths; reporting child abuse or neglect; or reporting
  reactions to medication or problems with medical products or to notify people of recalls of products
  they have been using.
- To Assist Victims of Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence. When authorized by law to report
  information about abuse, neglect or domestic violence to a government authority, including a social

service or protective services agency, authorized by law to receive such reports if there exists a reasonable belief that you may be the victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence.

- Health Oversight Activities. The Plan may disclose your PHI to a public health oversight agency for
  oversight activities authorized by law. This includes audits, investigations, inspections, and licensure
  necessary for the government to monitor the health care system and government programs (for
  example, to investigate complaints against providers or investigate Medicare or Medicaid fraud).
- Research. Under certain circumstances, the Plan may use and disclose your PHI for medical research purposes as provided under the HIPAA privacy regulations.
- National Security, Intelligence Activities, and Protective Services. The Plan may release your PHI to authorized federal officials: (1) for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law and (2) to enable them to provide protection to the members of the U.S. government or foreign heads of state, or to conduct special investigations.
- Organ and Tissue Donation. If you are an organ donor, the Plan may release medical information to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye, or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.
- Coroners, Medical Examiners, and Funeral Directors. The Plan may release your PHI to a coroner
  or medical examiner. This may be necessary, for example, to identify a deceased person or to
  determine the cause of death. The Plan may also release your PHI to a funeral director, as necessary,
  to carry out his/her duty.
- To Correctional Institutions. If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or in the lawful custody of a law enforcement official, the Plan may disclose your PHI to the institution or official if the information is necessary for (1) the provision of health care to you, (2) the health and safety of you, other inmates, officers, employees, or others at the correctional institution, (3) law enforcement on the premises of the correctional institution, or (4) the safety, security, and good order of the correctional institution.
- **Disaster Relief**. Under certain circumstances, the Plan may use or disclose your PHI to a public or private entity authorized by law or by its charter to assist in disaster relief efforts.

### Minimum Necessary Standard

When using or disclosing PHI or when requesting PHI from another HIPAA covered entity, the Plan will make reasonable efforts not to use, disclose or request more than the minimum amount of PHI necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of the use, disclosure or request, taking into consideration practical and technological limitations. However, the minimum necessary standard will not apply in the following situations:

- Disclosures to or requests by a health care provider for treatment;
- Uses or disclosures made to the individual;
- Uses or disclosures made pursuant to a valid authorization;
- Disclosures made to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS);
- · Uses or disclosures that are required by law; and
- Uses or disclosures that are required for the Plan's compliance with legal regulations.

The Plan shall limit uses of, disclosures of, and requests for PHI, to the extent practicable, to the limited data set (as defined under the HIPAA privacy regulations), or the minimum amount of PHI necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of the use, disclosure or request.

## Your Rights Regarding Health Information About You

Your rights regarding the health information the Plan maintains about you are as follows:

• Right to Inspect and Copy Your Protected Health Information. You have the right to inspect and copy your PHI that is maintained in a designated record set for so long as the Plan maintains your PHI. A "designated record set" includes medical information about eligibility, enrollment, claim and appeal records, medical and billing records maintained by or for the Plan, but does not include psychotherapy notes, information intended for use in the civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding, or information that is otherwise prohibited by law.

If your PHI is maintained in one or more designated record sets electronically and if you request an electronic copy of your PHI, then the Plan will provide you with access to PHI in the electronic form and format you requested, if it is readily producible in such form or format. If it is not readily producible, then access will be provided in a readable electronic form and format that is mutually agreed upon.

You may request that the Plan provide a copy of your PHI to another person that you designate. Your request must be in writing, be signed by you, and clearly identify the designated person and where to send the copy of your PHI.

To request to inspect and/or copy health information maintained by the Plan, submit your request in writing to the Contact Person.

Your request must include the form or format of access that you want, a description of the PHI that the request applies to, and appropriate contact information for you.

The Plan may charge a fee for the cost of copying and/or mailing your request. In limited circumstances, the Plan may deny your request to inspect and copy your PHI. Generally, if you are denied access to health information, you may request a review of the denial.

- Right to Amend. If you feel that health information the Plan has about you is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask the Plan to amend it. You have the right to request an amendment to your PHI or a record about you in a designated record set for as long as the information is kept by or for the Plan. To request an amendment, send a detailed request in writing to the Contact Person. You must provide the reason(s) to support your request. The Plan may deny your request if you ask the Plan to amend health information that was: accurate and complete, not created by the Plan; not part of the designated record set; or not information that you would be permitted to inspect and copy.
- Right to an Accounting of Disclosures. You have the right to request an "accounting of disclosures" during the six years prior to the date of your request. This is a list of disclosures of your PHI that the Plan has made to others. However, such accounting need not include certain routine PHI disclosures. To request an accounting of disclosures, submit your request in writing to the Contact Person. Your request must state a time period, which may not be longer than six years prior to the date the accounting was requested. If you request more than one accounting within a 12-month period, the Plan will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee for each subsequent accounting. You will be notified in advance of the cost involved, and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before any costs are incurred.
- Right to Request Restrictions. You have the right to request a restriction on the health information the Plan uses or disclosures about you for treatment, payment, or health care operations. You also have the right to request a limit on the health information the Plan discloses about you to someone who is involved in your care or the payment for your care, like a family member or friend. For example, you could ask that the Plan not use or disclose information about a surgery you had. To request restrictions, make your request in writing to the Contact Person. You must advise us: (1) what

information you want to limit; (2) whether you want to limit the Plan's use, disclosure, or both; and (3) to whom you want the limit(s) to apply.

Note: The Plan is not required to agree to your request.

- State Privacy Rights. You may have additional privacy rights under state laws, including rights in connection with mental health and psychotherapy reports, pregnancy, HIV/AIDS related illnesses, and the health treatment of minors.
- Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to request that the Plan communicate with you about health matters in a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you can ask that the Plan send you explanation of benefits (EOB) forms about your benefit claims to a specified address. To request confidential communications, make your request in writing to the Contact Person. Your request must be reasonable and should include the following: (1) an alternate address or other means of contacting you; (2) a statement that the disclosure of all or part of the PHI to which the request pertains could endanger you; and (3) where appropriate, information as to how payment (if any) will be handled. The Plan will make every attempt to accommodate all reasonable requests.
- Right to a Paper Copy of this Notice. You have the right to a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you received this notice previously or agreed to receive this notice electronically. You may write to the Contact Person to request a written copy of this notice at any time. This notice is also available at WellAtNewell.com or by calling the Newell Brands Benefits Center at 833-463-9355.

### A Note About Personal Representatives

You may exercise your rights through a personal representative. Your personal representative will be required to produce evidence of his or her authority to act on your behalf before that person will be given access to your PHI or allowed to take any action for you. Proof of such authority may take one of the following forms:

- A power of attorney for health care purposes, notarized by a notary public;
- A court order of appointment of the person as the conservator or guardian of the individual; or
- An individual who is the parent of a minor child.

With respect to a deceased individual, the Plan treats an executor, administrator, or other person as a personal representative if such person has authority under applicable law to act on behalf of the deceased individual or the individual's estate.

The Plan retains discretion to deny access to your PHI to a personal representative and not treat the person as your personal representative to provide protection to those vulnerable people who depend on others to exercise their rights under these rules and who may be subject to abuse or neglect. This also applies to personal representatives of minors. For example, the Plan may elect not to treat a person as your personal representative if the Plan reasonably believes that you have been or may be subject to domestic violence, abuse or neglect by such person, treating that person as your personal representative could endanger you, or the Plan, in the exercise of professional judgment, decides that it is not in your best interest to treat that person as your personal representative.

### Changes to this Notice

The Plan reserves the right to change this notice at any time and to make the revised or changed notice effective for health information the Plan already has about you, as well as any information the Plan receives in the future. The Plan will post a copy of the current notice at WellAtNewell.com or by calling the Newell Brands Benefits Center at 833-463-9355.

### **Complaints**

If you believe your privacy rights under this policy have been violated, you may file a written complaint with the Plan Administrator at the address listed below. Alternatively, you may complain to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, generally, within 180 days of when the act or omission complained of occurred.

Note: You will not be penalized or retaliated against for filing a complaint.

#### Other Uses and Disclosures of Health Information

Other uses and disclosures of health information not covered by this notice or by the laws that apply to the Plan will be made only with your written authorization. If you authorize the Plan to use or disclose your PHI, you may revoke the authorization, in writing, at any time. If you revoke your authorization, the Plan will no longer use or disclosure your PHI for the reasons covered by your written authorization; however, the Plan will not reverse any uses or disclosures already made in reliance on your prior authorization.

#### **Contact Information**

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the Contact Person as shown below:

Newell Brands Benefits Center P O Box 18022 Norfolk, VA 23501-1859

Notice Effective Date: October 10, 2021