

**The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)**

The Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (“Privacy Rule”) establishes, for the first time, a set of national standards for the protection of certain health information. The U.S Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) issued the Privacy Rule to implement the requirement of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”). The Privacy Rule standards address the use and disclosure of individuals’ health information – called “protective health information,” by organizations subject to the Privacy Rule – called “covered entities,” as well as standards for individuals’ privacy rights to understand and control how their health information is used. Within HHS, the Office for Civil Rights (“OCR”) has responsibility for implementing and enforcing the Privacy Rule with respect to voluntary compliance activities and civil money penalties.

A major goal of the Privacy Rule is to assure that individuals’ health information is properly protected while allowing the flow of health information needed to provide and promote high quality health care and to protect the public’ health and well-being. The Rule strikes a balance that permits important uses of information, while protecting the privacy of people who seek care and healing. Given that the health care marketplace is diverse, the Rule is designed to be flexible and comprehensive to cover the variety of uses and discloses that need to be addressed. To view the entire Rule, and for other additional helpful information about how it applies, see the OCR website: <https://hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa>

Every patient/client has individual rights under the federal privacy standards. These include:

* The right to request restriction on the use and disclosure or personal protected health information
* The right to receive confidential communication concerning personal medical conditions and treatments
* The right to inspect and copy personal protected health information
* The right to amend or submit corrections to personal protected health information
* The right to receive an accounting of how and to whom personal protected health information has been disclosed

Generations R.C., Inc. employees are required by law to maintain the privacy of each individual’s protected health information and are required to abide by privacy policies and practices.

As a student or volunteer, it is expected that you will maintain the same duties as expected of Generations R.C., Inc. employees as stated above.

If you agree to comply with such duties, please sign and date below:

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Signature Date

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Print Name

Documented updated by Jessica N. Dale, PT, DPT on November 5, 2019