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Non-discrimination Notice

Discrimination Is Against the Law

Notice Informing Individuals about Nondiscrimination and Accessibility Requirements

America's 1st Choice of South Carolina, Inc. complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

America's 1st Choice of South Carolina, Inc. does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

America's 1st Choice of South Carolina, Inc.:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
 - Qualified sign language interpreters
 - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact the America's 1st Choice of South Carolina Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you believe that America's 1st Choice of South Carolina, Inc. has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with:

America's 1st Choice of South Carolina Civil Rights Coordinator
P.O. Box 21528
Columbia, SC 29221-1528
Phone: 1-888-563-3289, TTY: 711
Fax: 803-748-4907

You can file a grievance by mail, fax, or phone. If you need help filing a grievance, the America's 1st Choice of South Carolina Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building
Washington, D.C. 20201

1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

Multi-Language Insert / Inserción de varios idiomas

Multi-language Interpreter Services / Servicios de interpretación en varios idiomas

English: ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

Español (Spanish): ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

繁體中文 (Chinese): 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711)。

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese): CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

한국어 (Korean): 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Français (French): ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-888-563-3289 (ATS: 711).

Tagalog (Tagalog – Filipino): PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

Русский (Russian): ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-888-563-3289 (телетайп: 711).

Deutsch (German): ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

ગુજરાતી (Gujarati): સુચના: જો તમે ગુજરાતી બોલતા હો, તો નિ:શુલ્ક ભાષા સહાય સેવાઓ તમારા માટે ઉપલબ્ધ છે. ફોન કરો 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

العربية (Arabic):

العربية ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1-888-563-3289 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 711).

Português (Portuguese): ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

日本語 (Japanese): 注意事項：日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1-888-563-3289 (TTY:711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

Українська (Ukrainian): УВАГА! Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки. Телефонуйте за номером 1-888-563-3289 (телетайп: 711).

हिंदी (Hindi): ध्यान दें: यदि आप हिंदी बोलते हैं तो आपके लिए मुफ्त में भाषा सहायता सेवाएं उपलब्ध हैं। 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711) पर कॉल करें।

ខ្មែរ (Cambodian): ប្រយ័ត្ន: បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតល្អល គឺអាចមានសំរាប់អ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711) ។

ΠΡΟΣΟΧΗ (Greek): Αν μιλάτε ελληνικά, στη διάθεσή σας βρίσκονται υπηρεσίες γλωσσικής υποστήριξης, οι οποίες παρέχονται δωρεάν. Καλέστε 1-888-563-3289 (TTY: 711).

Optional Document:

Notice of Privacy Practices



**Your Information.
Your Rights.
Our Responsibilities.**

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.

Your Rights

When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights.

This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

Get a copy of your health and claims records

- You can ask to see or get a copy of your health and claims records and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this.
 - We will provide a copy or a summary of your health and claims records, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.
-

Ask us to correct health and claims records

- You can ask to correct your health and claims records if you think they are incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this.
 - We may say “no” to your request, but we’ll tell you why in writing within 60 days.
-

Request confidential communications

- You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address.
 - We will consider all reasonable request, and must say “yes” if you tell us you would be in danger if we do not.
-

Ask us to limit what we use or share

- You can ask us **not** to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations.
- We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say “no” if it would affect your care.

Get a list of those with whom we've shared information

- You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we've shared your health information for six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why.
- We will include all the disclosures except for those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We'll provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

Get a copy of this privacy notice

- You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

Choose someone to act for you

- If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information.
- We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated

- You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contracting us using the information on the back page.
- You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/
- We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

Your Choices

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

In these cases, you have both, the right and choice to tell us to:

- Share information with your family, close friends, or other involved in payment for your care.
- Share information in a disaster relief situation.

If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

In these cases we never share your information unless you given us written permission:

- Marketing purposes.
- Sale of your information.

Our Uses and Disclosures

How do we typically use or share your health information?

We typically use or share your health information in the following ways.

Help manage the health care treatment you receive

- We can use your health information and share it with professionals who are treating you.

Example: A doctor sends us information about your diagnosis and treatment plan so we can arrange additional services.

Run our organization

- We can use and disclose your information to run our organization and contact you when necessary.
- **We are not allowed to use genetic information to decide whether we will give you coverage and the price of that coverage.** This does not apply to long term care plans.

Example: We use health information about you to develop better services for you.

Pay for your health services

- We can use and disclose your health information as we pay for your health services.

Example: We share information about you with your dental plan to coordinate payment for your dental work.

Administer your plan

- We may disclose your health information to your health plan sponsor for plan administration.

Example: Your company contracts with us to provide a health plan, and we provide your company with certain statistics to explain the premiums we charge.

continued on next page

Our Uses and Disclosures

How else can we use or share your health information?

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes. For more information see:

www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html.

Help with public health and safety issues

- We can share health information about you for certain situations such as:
 - Preventing disease
 - Helping with product recalls
 - Reporting adverse reactions to medications
 - Reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence
 - Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety

Do research

- We can use or share your information for health research.

Comply with the law

- We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law.

Respond to organ and tissue donation requests and work with a medical examiner or funeral director

- We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.
- We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.

Address workers' compensation law enforcement, and other government requests

- We can use or share health information about you:
 - For workers' compensation claims
 - For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
 - With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law
 - For special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

- We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

We never market or sell personal information.

Our Responsibilities

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information see: **www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html**.

Changes to the Terms of This Notice

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, on our web site, and we will mail a copy to you.

This Notice of Privacy Practices applies to the following organizations.

America's 1st Choice of South Carolina, Inc.

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*America's 1st Choice of South Carolina, Inc.
P.O. Box 152137
Tampa, FL 33684*

*Privacy Officer, ComplianceReporting@americas1stchoice.com,
Compliance Hotline: 1-888-548-0095*

*www.americas1stchoice.ethicspoint.com
Health Plan: www.americas1stchoice.com*

Effective 01/01/2015 (Reviewed 06/05/2019)



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