Kyrene Employee Benefit Trust
NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003, updated July 1, 2025

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.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR HEALTH RECORD/INFORMATION

Each time you visit a hospital, physician, dentist, or other healthcare provider, a record of your visit is made. Typically, this record contains your symptoms, examination and test results, diagnoses, treatment, and a plan for future care or treatment. This information often referred to as your health or medical record, serves as a basis for planning your care and treatment and serves as a means of communication among the many health professionals who contribute to your care. Understanding what is in your record and how your health information is used helps you to ensure its accuracy, better understand who, what, when, where, and why others may access your health information, and helps you make more informed decisions when authorizing disclosure to others.

YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION RIGHTS

Unless otherwise required by law, your health record is the physical property of the health plan that compiled it. However, you have certain rights with respect to the information. You have the right to:

1. **Receive a copy of this Notice of Privacy Practices** from us upon enrollment or upon request.
2. **Request restrictions on our uses and disclosures of your protected health information** for treatment, payment and health care operations. We reserve the right not to agree to a given requested restriction.
3. **Request to receive communications of protected health information in confidence.**
4. **Inspect and obtain a copy of the protected health information** contained in your medical or billing records and in any other of the organization's health records used by us to make decisions about you.
5. **Request an amendment to your protected health information**. However, we may deny your request for an amendment, if we determine that the protected health information or record that is the subject of the request:
    - was not created by us, unless you provide a reasonable basis to believe that the originator of the protected health information is no longer available to act on the requested amendment;
    - is not part of your medical or billing records;
    - is not available for inspection as set forth above; or
    - is accurate and complete.

    In any event, any agreed upon amendment will be included as an addition to, and not a replacement of, already existing records.
6. **Receive an accounting of disclosures of protected health information** made by us to individuals or entities other than to you, except for disclosures:
    - to carry out treatment, payment and health care operations as provided above;
    - to persons involved in your care or for other notification purposes as provided by law;
    - to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials as provided by law;
    - for national security or intelligence purposes;
    - that occurred prior to the date of compliance with privacy standards (April 14, 2003 or April 14, 2004 for small health plans);
    - incidental to other permissible uses or disclosures;
    - that are part of a limited data set (does not contain protected health information that directly identifies individuals);
    - made to plan participant or covered person or their personal representatives;
    - for which a written authorization form from the plan participant or covered person has been received
7. **Revoke your authorization to use or disclose health information** except to the extent that we have already taken action in reliance on your authorization, or if the authorization was obtained as a condition of obtaining insurance coverage and other applicable law provides the insurer that obtained the authorization with the right to contest a claim under the policy.
8. **Receive notification if affected by a breach of unsecured PHI**

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HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED

This organization may use and/or disclose your medical information for the following purposes:

Treatment: We may use or disclose your health information without your permission for health care providers to provide you with treatment.

Payment: We may use or disclose your health information without your permission to carry out activities relating to reimbursing you for the provision of health care, obtaining premiums, determining coverage, and providing benefits under the policy of insurance that you are purchasing. Such functions may include reviewing health care services with respect to medical necessity, coverage under the policy, appropriateness of care, or justification of charges.

To Carry Out Certain Operations Relating to Your Benefit Plan: We also may use or disclose your protected health information without your permission to carry out certain limited activities relating to your health insurance benefits, including reviewing the competence or qualifications of health care professionals, placing contracts for stop-loss insurance and conducting quality assessment activities.

To Plan Sponsor: Your protected health information may be disclosed to the plan sponsor as necessary for the administration of this health benefit plan pursuant to the restrictions imposed on plan sponsors in the plan documents. These restrictions prevent the misuse of your information for other purposes.

Health-Related Benefits and Services: We may contact you to provide information about other health-related products and services that may be of interest to you. For example, we may use and disclose your protected health information for the purpose of communicating to you about our health insurance products that could enhance or substitute for existing health plan coverage, and about health-related products and services that may add value to your existing health plan.

Individuals Involved in Your Care or Payment for Your Care: Unless you object, we may disclose your protected health information to your family or friends or any other individual identified by you when they are involved in your care or the payment for your care. We will only disclose the protected health information directly relevant to their involvement in your care or payment. We may also disclose your protected health information to notify a person responsible for your care (or to identify such person) of your location, general condition or death.

Business Associates: There may be some services provided in our organization through contracts with Business Associates. An example might include a copy service we use when making copies of your health record. When these services are contracted, we may disclose some or all of your health information to our Business Associate so that they can perform the job we have asked them to do. To protect your health information, however, we require the Business Associate to appropriately safeguard your information.

Limited Data Sets: We may use or disclose, under certain circumstances, limited amounts of your protected health information that is contained in limited data sets. These circumstances include public health, research, and health care operations purposes.

Organ and Tissue Donation: If you are an organ donor, we may release medical information to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank, as necessary to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.

Worker's Compensation: We may release protected health information about you for programs that provide benefits for work related injuries or illness.

Communicable Diseases: We may disclose protected health information to notify a person who may have been exposed to a disease or may be at risk for contracting or spreading a disease or condition.

Health Oversight Activities: We may disclose protected health information to federal or state agencies that oversee our activities.

Law Enforcement: We may disclose protected health information as required by law or in response to a valid judge ordered subpoena. For example in cases of victims of abuse or domestic violence; to identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person; related to judicial or administrative proceedings; or related to other law enforcement purposes.

Military and Veterans: If you are a member of the armed forces, we may release protected health information about you as required by military command authorities.

Lawsuits and Disputes: We may disclose protected health information about you in response to a court or administrative order. We may also disclose medical information about you in response to a subpoena, discovery request, or other lawful process.

Inmates: If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, we may release protected health information about you to the correctional institution or law enforcement official. An inmate does not have the right to the Notice of Privacy Practices.

Abuse or Neglect: We may disclose protected health information to notify the appropriate government authority if we believe a patient has been the victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence. We will only make this disclosure if you agree or when required or authorized by law.

Coroners, Medical Examiners, and Funeral Directors: We may release protected health information to a coroner or medical examiner. This may be necessary to identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death. We may also release protected health information about patients to funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties.

Public Health Risks: We may disclose your protected health information for public health activities and purposes to a public health authority that is permitted by law to collect or receive the information. The disclosure will be made for the purpose such as controlling disease, injury or disability.

Serious Threats: As permitted by applicable law and standards of ethical conduct, we may use and disclose protected health information if we, in good faith, believe that the use or disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA): As required by law, we may disclose to the FDA health information relative to adverse events with respect to food, supplements, product and product defects, or post marketing surveillance information to enable product recalls, repairs, or replacement.

For Purposes For Which We Have Obtained Your Written Permission: All other uses or disclosures of your protected health information will be made only with your written permission, and any permission that you give us may be revoked by you at any time.

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INFORMATION WE COLLECT ABOUT YOU

We collect the following categories of information about you from the following sources:

- Information that we obtain directly from you, in conversations or on applications or other forms that you fill out.
- Information that we obtain as a result of our transactions with you.
- Information that we obtain from your medical records or from medical professionals.
- Information that we obtain from other entities, such as health care providers or other insurance companies, in order to service your policy or carry out other insurance-related needs.

GENETIC INFORMATION

We will not use genetic or disclose genetic information or results from genetic services for underwriting purposes, such as:

- Rules for eligibility or benefits under the health plan;
- The determination of premium or contribution amounts under the health plan;
- The application of any pre-existing condition exclusion under the health plan; and
- Other activities related to the creation, renewal or replacement of a contract of health insurance or health benefits.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

We are required to maintain the privacy of your health information. In addition, we are required to provide you with a notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to information we collect and maintain about you. We must abide by the terms of this notice. We reserve the right to change our practices and to make the new provisions effective for all the protected health information we maintain. If our information practices change, a revised notice will be mailed to the address you have supplied upon request. If we maintain a Web site that provides information about our services or benefits, the new notice will be posted on that Web site.

Your health information will not be used or disclosed without your written authorization, except as described in this notice. The following uses and disclosures will be made only with explicit authorization from you: (i) uses and disclosures of your health information for marketing purposes, including subsidized treatment communications; (ii) disclosures that constitute a sale of your health information; and (iii) other uses and disclosures not described in the notice. Except as noted above, you may revoke your authorization in writing at any time.

OUR PRACTICE REGARDING CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY

We restrict access to nonpublic personal information about you to those employees who need to know that information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulations to guard your nonpublic personal information.

OUR PRACTICE REGARDING CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY FOR E-MAIL COMMUNICATION

If you choose to communicate with us via e-mail, please be aware of the following due to the nature of e-mail communication: **(a)** privacy and security of e-mail messages are not guaranteed **(b)** we are not responsible for loss due to technical failures and **(c)** e-mail communication should not be used for emergencies or time and content sensitive issues.

POTENTIAL IMPACT OF STATE LAW

In some circumstances, the privacy laws of a particular state, or other federal laws, provide individuals with greater privacy protections than those provided for in the HIPAA Privacy Regulations. In those instances, we are required to follow the more stringent state or federal laws as they afford the individual greater privacy protections. For example, where such laws have been enacted, we will follow more stringent state privacy laws that relate to uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information concerning HIV or AIDS, mental health, substance abuse/chemical dependency, genetic testing, and reproductive rights.

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES AVAILABILITY

You will be provided a hard copy for review at the time of enrollment (or by the Privacy compliance date for this health plan). Thereafter, you may obtain a copy upon request, and the notice will be maintained on the organization's Web site (if applicable Web site exists) for downloading.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT A PROBLEM

If you have questions about this notice or would like additional information, you may contact our HIPAA Privacy Officer, Chief Financial Officer, at the telephone or address below. If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated, you have the right to file a complaint with the Privacy Officer or with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. The complaint must be in writing, describe the acts or omissions that you believe violate your privacy rights, and be filed within 180 days of when you knew or should have known that the act or omission occurred. We will take no retaliatory action against you if you make such complaints.

The contact information for both is included below.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Secretary
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
Tel: (202) 619-0257
Toll Free: 1-877-696-6775
http://www.hhs.gov/contacts

Kyrene School District
Chief Financial Officer
Privacy Officer
8700 S. Kyrene Road
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