

DIAZ PLASTIC SURGERY

HIPAA Information and Consent Form

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provide safeguards to protect your privacy. Implementation of HIPAA requirements officially began on April 14, 2003. Many of the policies have been *our* practice for years.

What this is all about: Specifically, there are rules and restrictions on who may see or be notified of your Protected Health Information (PHI). These restrictions do not include the normal interchange of information necessary to provide you with office services. HIPAA provides certain rights and protections to you as the patient. We balance these needs with our goal of providing you with quality professional service and care. Additional information is available from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – www.hhs.gov.

Diaz Plastic Surgery has adopted the following policies:

1. Patient information will be kept confidential except as is necessary to provide services or to ensure that all administrative matters related to your care are handled appropriately. This specifically includes the sharing of information with other healthcare providers, laboratories, health insurance payers as is necessary and appropriate for your care. Patient files may be stored in open file racks and will not contain any coding which identifies a patient's condition or information which is not already a matter of public records. The normal course of providing care means that such records may be left, at least temporarily, in administrative areas such as the front office, examination room, etc. Those records will not be available to persons other than office staff. You agree to the normal procedures utilized within the office for the handling of charts, patient records, PHI (Protective Health Information) and other documents or information.
2. It is the policy of this office to remind patients of their appointments. We may do this by telephone, email, US mail, or by any means convenient for the practice and/or as requested by you. We may send you other communications informing you of changes to office policy and new technology that you might find valuable or informative.
3. The practice utilizes a number of vendors in the conduct of business. These vendors may have access to PHI but must agree to abide by the confidentiality rules of HIPAA.
4. You understand and agree to inspections of the office and review of documents which may include PHI by government agencies or insurance payers in normal performance of their duties.
5. You agree to bring any concerns or complaints regarding privacy to the attention of the Practice Administrator or the doctor.
6. Your confidential information will not be used for the purposes of marketing or advertising of products, goods or services.
7. We agree to provide patients with access to their records in accordance with state and federal laws.
8. We may change, add, delete or modify any of these provisions to better serve the needs of both the practice and the patient.
9. You have the right to request restrictions in the use of your protected health information and to request change in certain policies used within the office concerning your PHI. However, we are not obligated to alter internal policies to conform to your request.

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I, _____, Date _____, do hereby consent and acknowledge my agreement to the terms set for the in the HIPAA INFORMATION FORM and any subsequent changes in office policy.

I understand that this consent shall remain in force from this time forward.

Office Staff Witness/Signature: _____ Date: _____

I, _____, understand that as part of my health care, Michael Diaz MD, P.A. d/b/a Diaz Plastic Surgery, originates and maintains paper and/or electronic records describing my health history, symptoms, examination and test results, diagnoses, treatment, and any plans for future care or treatment. I understand that this information serves as:

- A basis for planning my care and treatment,
- A means of communication among the many health professionals who contribute to my care,
- A source of information for applying my diagnosis and surgical information to my bill,
- A means by which a third-party payer can verify that services billed were actually provided, and
- A tool for routine health care operations such as assessing quality and reviewing the competence of health care professionals.

I understand and have been provided with a *Notice of Information Practices* that provides a more complete description of information uses and disclosures. I understand that I have the following rights and privileges.

- The right to review the notice prior to signing this consent,
- The right to object to the use of my health information for directory purposes, and
- The right to request restrictions as to how my health information may be used or disclosed to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations.

I understand the Michael Diaz MD, PA, is not required to agree to the restrictions requested. I understand that I may revoke this consent in writing, except to the extent that the organization has already taken action in reliance thereon. I also understand that by refusing to sign this consent or revoking this consent, this organization may refuse to treat me as permitted by Section 164.506 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

I further understand that Michael Diaz MD, PA, reserves the right to change their notice and practices and prior to implementation, in accordance with Section 164.520 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

I wish to have the following restrictions to the use or disclosure of my health information:

MY MEDICAL CARE MAY BE DISCUSSED WITH:

I understand that as part of this organization's treatment, payment, or health care operations, it may become necessary to disclose my protected health information to another entity, and I consent to such disclosure for these permitted uses, including disclosures via fax.

I fully understand and accept/ decline the terms of this consent.

Patient Signature

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- () Consent received by _____ on _____
- () Consent refused by patient, and treatment refused as permitted.
- () Consent added to the patient's medical record on _____