

#### **IV. Last Revision Date**

This Notice was last revised on January 1, 2015.

#### **V. How We May Use or Disclose Your Health Information**

The following examples describe different ways we may use or disclose your health information. These examples are not meant to be exhaustive. We are permitted by law to use and disclose your health information for the following purposes:

##### **A. Common Uses and Disclosures**

**1. Treatment.** We may use your health information to provide you with dental treatment or services, such as cleaning or examining your teeth or performing dental procedures. We may disclose health information about you to dental specialists, physicians, or other health care professionals involved in your care.

**2. Payment.** We may use and disclose your health information to obtain payment from health plans and insurers for the care that we provide to you.

**3. Health Care Operations.** We may use and disclose health information about you in connection with health care operations necessary to run our practice, including review of our treatment and services, training, evaluating the performance of our staff and health care professionals, quality assurance, financial or billing audits, legal matters, and business planning and development.

**4. Appointment Reminders.** We may use or disclose your health information when contacting you to remind you of a dental appointment. We may contact you by using a postcard, letter, phone call, voice message, text or email.

**5. Treatment Alternatives and Health-Related Benefits and Services.** We may use and disclose your health information to tell you about treatment options or alternatives or health-related benefits and services that may be of interest to you.

**6. Disclosure to Family Members and Friends.** We may disclose your health information to a family member or friend who is involved with your care or payment for your care if you do not object or, if you are not present, we believe it is in your best interest to do so.

**7. Disclosure to Business Associates.** We may disclose your protected health information to our third-party service providers (called, "business associates") that perform functions on our behalf or provide us with services if the information is necessary for such functions or services. For example, we may use a business associate to assist us in maintaining our practice management software. All of our business associates are obligated, under contract with us, to protect the privacy of your information and are not allowed to use or disclose any information other than as specified in our contract.