

## **CONSENT FOR SERVICES AND FINANCIAL POLICY**

As a condition of your treatment by this office, financial arrangements must be made in advance. The practice depends upon reimbursement from the patients for the costs incurred in their care and financial responsibility on the part of each patient must be determined before treatment.

**DENTAL INSURANCE:** Our office will gladly work with you to help get the maximum benefit available to you. Most dental insurance plans do not cover 100% of your cost of treatment. Therefore, you will be expected to pay your deductible and, your **ESTIMATED** co-payment on the day services are rendered. We will gladly file your insurance claim. Many variables exist from carrier to carrier (i.e. deductibles, annual maximums, allowable fee limitations, non-covered procedures and other restrictions); therefore, we cannot guarantee any estimated charges. Because your insurance is an agreement between you and the insurance company, ultimately you are responsible for all charges. Please know that we will do everything possible to see that you receive the full benefits from your insurance company. If for some reason your insurance-company has not paid their estimated portion within 60 days from the start of treatment, you are responsible for payment in full at that time. Treatment could be altered if your dental needs change. The patient will be notified of any change(s) in treatment. After a statement of accounts has been sent and a balance is left on the account after 60 days, the credit card kept on file will be charged for any balance over 60 days.

### **REGARDING INSURANCE PLANS WHERE WE ARE A PARTICIPATING PROVIDER**

All **ESTIMATED** portions and deductibles are due prior to treatment. In the event your insurance coverage changes to a plan where we are a non-participating provider, refer to above paragraph. You are responsible for advising this office if you have a change in your insurance coverage prior to your appointment.

### **USUAL AND CUSTOMARY RATES**

Our practice is committed in providing the best treatment for our patients and we charge what is usual and customary for our area. **You are responsible for payment regardless of any insurance company's arbitrary determination of usual and customary rates.**

### **ADULT PATIENTS**

Adult patients are responsible for full payment at time of service.

### **MINOR PATIENTS**

Any adult accompanying a minor and the parents (or guardians of the minor) are responsible for full payment. For unaccompanied minors, non-emergency treatment will be denied unless charges have been pre-authorized to be approved by visa./MasterCard, American Express, Discover, Care Credit, CitiHealth or payment by cash or check at time of service has been verified.

**MISSED APPOINTMENTS** We respectfully ask that you give us a minimum of 24 hours notice to cancel or reschedule your appointment. Please help us serve you better by keeping scheduled appointments

## **NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

### **OUR LEGAL DUTY**

We are required by applicable federal and state law to maintain the privacy of your health information. We are also required to give you this Notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this Notice while it is in effect. This Notice takes effect 4/14/2003 and will remain in effect until we replace it. We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this Notice at any time, provided such changes are permitted by applicable law. We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our Notice effective for all health information that we maintain, including health information we created or received before we made the changes. Before we make a significant change in our privacy practices, we will change this Notice and make the new Notice available upon request. You may request a copy of our Notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this Notice, please contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice.

### **USES AND DISCLOSURES OF HEALTH INFORMATION.**

**Treatment:** We may use or disclose your health information to a physician or other healthcare provider providing treatment to you.

**PRIME DENTAL GROUP**

**OSCAR L. CASTRO JR., DDS**

**MICHAEL HENNESSY, DDS**

**Payment:** We may use and disclose your health information to obtain payment for services we provide to you.

**Healthcare Operations:** We may use and disclose your health information in connection with our healthcare operations. Healthcare operations include quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing the competence or qualifications of healthcare professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, conducting training programs, accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing activities.

**Your Authorization:** In addition to our use of your health information for treatment, payment or healthcare operations, you may give us written authorization to use your health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Unless you give us a written authorization, we cannot use or disclose your health information for any reason except those described in this Notice.

**Persons Involved In Care:** We may use or disclose health information to notify, or assist in the notification of a family member, your personal representative or another person responsible for your care, of your location, your general condition, or death. If you are present, then prior to use or disclosure of your health information, we will provide you with an opportunity to object to such uses or disclosures. In the event of your incapacity or emergency circumstances, we will disclose health information based on a determination using our professional judgment disclosing only health information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement in your healthcare. We will also use our professional judgment and our experience with common practice to make reasonable inferences of your best interest in allowing a person to pick up filled prescriptions, medical supplies, x-rays, or other similar forms of health information.

**Required by Law:** We may use or disclose your health information when we are required to do so by law.

**Abuse or Neglect:** We may disclose your health information to appropriate authorities if we reasonably believe that you are a possible victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence or the possible victim of other crimes. We may disclose your health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of others.

**National Security:** We may disclose to military authorities the health information of Armed Forces personnel under

**PATIENT RIGHTS**

**Access:** You have the right to look at or get copies of your health information, with limited exceptions. You may request that we provide copies in a format other than photocopies. We will use the format you request unless we cannot practicably do so. (You must make a request in writing to obtain access to your health information. You may obtain a form to request access by using the contact information listed at the end of this Notice. We will charge you a reasonable cost-based fee for expenses such as copies and staff time. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address at the end of this Notice. If you request copies, we will charge you \$.50 for each page, \$20 per hour for staff time to locate and copy your health information, and postage if you want the copies mailed to you. If you request an alternative format, we will charge a cost-based fee for providing your health information in that format. If you prefer, we will prepare a summary or an explanation of your health information for a fee. Contact us using the information listed at the end of this Notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.

**AUTHORIZATION & RELEASE:** I authorize the dentist to release any information including the diagnosis and the records of any treatment or examination rendered to me or my child during the period of such dental care to third party payers and/or healthcare practitioners. I authorize and request my insurance company to pay directly to the dentist (if my insurance will allow it) or dental group insurance benefits otherwise payable to me. I understand that my insurance carrier may pay less than the actual bill for services. I agree to be responsible for payment of all services rendered on my behalf or my dependents. I authorize my personal payment information (checks or credit cards used to make payments on your account), to be kept on file, if needed, to make restitution on any balance over 60 days past due.

**I grant my permission to you or your assignee, to telephone me at home or at my work to discuss matters related to this form.**

**I agree to have any photos taken of me to be used for education, training and/or marketing.**

**I have read the above conditions of treatment and payment and agree to their content.**

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_