

## Welcome to Papale Eye Center

Thank you for scheduling your appointment with us. We look forward to meeting with you.

Please fill out and sign the enclosed forms **completely** prior to your visit and either mail them back or bring them with you on the day of your appointment. **Kindly bring your insurance cards and photo identification to your appointment** so that we may scan them into our computer system.

It is important for the doctor to have a list **all** of your current medications, so please list them on the enclosed health form.

We ask that you arrive approximately 15 minutes prior to your appointment time to allow our staff time to check you in. We will make every effort to see you at your scheduled appointment time.

Prior to your visit, please be sure to contact your insurance company to see if a referral is required. If one is needed, it is your responsibility to call your primary care physician to obtain the referral prior to your visit. It is also your responsibility to understand your insurance plan and associated copays and/or deductibles.

Your eyes may be dilated, which will cause light sensitivity and blurred near vision for several hours. So please plan your schedule accordingly.

**Dr. Papale patients** – A complete eye examination will take between 1 ½ to 2 hours, so please allow ample time for this thorough exam. If you are new to the office and currently wear contact lenses, please discontinue wearing your lenses 4 days prior to your appointment, unless you are scheduled for a routine eye exam.

**Dr. Rubis / Dr. Slepchuk patients** – A complete eye exam will take between 45 minutes to 1 hour. If you are having a contact lens exam, please wear your contact lenses into the exam. There will be a contact lens fitting fee that may not be covered by your insurance. Payment for the fitting fee is due at the time of the visit.

Thank you and we look forward to including you in our growing family of happy patients.

The Staff at the Papale Eye Center

**Directions to our 1515 Allen St., Springfield office:**

From the South: Take 91 North to Exit 4B. Follow signs toward 83 to Sumner Avenue. Continue on Sumner Avenue for 4-5 miles. After passing McDonalds on the right, stay right on Allen St. Turn left into the first office building on the left.

From the North: Take 91 South to Exit 5A. Take a left turn at the light, which brings you underneath I-91. Follow signs for 83 South. Turn right up the hill onto Longhill St. Turn left at the first light onto Sumner Ave / 83 South. Continue on Sumner Avenue for 4-5 miles. After passing McDonalds on the right, stay right on Allen St. Turn left into the first office building on the left.

From East Longmeadow: From the rotary, take Elm Street northward and continue as it turns into Cooley Street. Make a left turn onto Allen St. (at the intersection with 4 gas stations). The office is on the right side, across the street from Bicentennial Plaza.

# Papale Eye Center

OPHTHALMOLOGY

John J. Papale, M.D.    Mary Ann K. Rubis, O.D.    Zachary J. Slepchuk, O.D.

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION** and please have your insurance card(s) and photo id ready to be scanned.

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Care Physician: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M or F    Marital Status: Single, Married, Widow, Divorced

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Language: \_\_\_\_\_

**Race: (Circle one)**    American Indian or Alaskan Indian,    Asian,    African American,  
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander,    White or Caucasian,    Refuse to Report/Unreported

**Ethnicity: (Circle one)** Hispanic or Latino, Non-Hispanic or Latino, Refuse to Report/Unreported

**Preferred Pharmacy:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

**Work History:**

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you retired? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Person Responsible of Bill if NOT the patient:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**IF Workers Compensation:** Injury Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Reported to Employer: YES NO

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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## CONSENT TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION

Patient name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

I give Papale Eye Center permission to speak to the following person(s) – family or friend(s) – should they call on my behalf to inquire about my eye condition, billing questions or appointments.

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>RELATIONSHIP TO PATIENT</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| _____       | _____                          |
| _____       | _____                          |
| _____       | _____                          |

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>RELATIONSHIP</u> | <u>PHONE NUMBER</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| _____       | _____               | ( ) _____           |
| _____       | _____               | ( ) _____           |
| _____       | _____               | ( ) _____           |

**HIPAA:** I acknowledge that the HIPAA (notice of privacy practices) is posted. If I desire a copy of this document, one will be provided to me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Patient or Personal Representative)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Relationship to Minor Patient)

**This document expires (2) years from the date signed.**

## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW THE PAPALE EYE CENTER MAY USE AND DISCLOSE YOUR HEALTHCARE INFORMATION AND HOW YOU CAN OBTAIN ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

The Papale Eye Center is required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information. This information consists of all records related to your health, including demographic information, either created by The Papale Eye Center or received by The Papale Eye Center from other healthcare providers.

We are required to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your protected health information. These legal duties and privacy practices are described in this Notice. The Papale Eye Center will abide by the terms of this Notice, or the Notice currently in effect at the time of the use or disclosure of your protected health information.<sup>1</sup>

The Papale Eye Center reserves the right to change the terms of this Notice and to make any new provisions effective for all protected health information that we maintain. Patients will be provided a copy of any revised Notices upon request. An individual may obtain a copy of the current Notice from our office at any time.

### Uses and Disclosures of Your Protected Health Information not Requiring Your Consent

The Papale Eye Center may use and disclose your protected health information, without your written consent or authorization, for certain treatment, payment, and healthcare operations. There are certain restrictions on uses and disclosures of treatment records, which include registration and all other records concerning individuals who are receiving, or who at any time have received services for mental illness, developmental disabilities, alcoholism, or drug dependence. There are also restrictions on disclosing HIV test results.

#### Treatment may include:

- Providing, coordinating, or managing healthcare and related services by one or more healthcare providers;
- Consultations between healthcare providers concerning a patient;
- Referrals to other providers for treatment;
- Referrals to nursing homes, foster care homes, or home health agencies.

For example, The Papale Eye Center may determine that you require services of a specialist. In referring you to another doctor, The Papale Eye Center may share or transfer your healthcare information to that doctor.

#### Payment activities may include:

- Activities undertaken by The Papale Eye Center to obtain reimbursement for services rendered to you;
- Determining your eligibility for benefits or health insurance coverage;
- Managing claims and contacting your insurance company regarding payment;
- Collection activities to obtain payment for services provided to you;
- Reviewing healthcare services and discussing with our insurance company the medical necessity of certain services or procedures, coverage under your health plan, appropriateness of care, or justification of charges;
- Obtaining pre-certification and pre-authorization of services to be provided to you.

For example, The Papale Eye Center will submit claims to your insurance company on your behalf. This claim identifies you, your diagnosis, and the services provided to you.

#### Healthcare operations may include:

- Contacting healthcare providers with information about treatment alternatives;
- Conducting quality assessment and improvement activities;
- Conducting outcomes evaluations and development of clinical guidelines;
- Protocol development, case management, or care coordination;
- Conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services, and auditing functions.

For example, The Papale Eye Center may use your diagnosis, treatment, and outcome information to measure the quality of the services that we provide, or assess the effectiveness of your treatment when compared to patients in similar situations.

The Papale Eye Center may contact you by telephone or mail, to provide appointment reminders. You must notify us if you do not wish to receive appointment reminders.

We may not disclose your protected health information to family members or friends who may be involved with your treatment or care without your written permission. Health information may be released without written permission to a parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a child; the guardian of an incompetent adult; the healthcare agent designated in an incapacitated patient's healthcare power of attorney; or the personal representative or spouse of a deceased patient.

There are additional situations when The Papale Eye Center is permitted or required to use or disclose your protected health information without your consent or authorization. Examples include the following:

- **As permitted or required by law.**  
In certain circumstances we may be required to report individual health information to legal authorities, such as law enforcement officials, court officials, or government agencies. For example, we may have to report abuse, neglect, domestic violence or certain physical injuries. We are required to report gunshot wounds or any other wound to law enforcement officials if there is reasonable cause to believe that the wound occurred as a result of a crime. Mental health records may be disclosed to law enforcement authorities for the purpose of reporting an apparent crime on our premises.
- **For public health activities.**  
We may release healthcare records, with the exception of treatment records, to certain government agencies or public health authority authorized by law, upon receipt of written request from that agency.

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<sup>1</sup>This Notice is prepared in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, 45 C.F.R. 164.520

We may report to the state epidemiologist the name of any person known to have been significantly exposed to a patient who tests positive for HIV. We are required by law to report suspected child abuse and neglect and suspected abuse of an unborn child, but cannot disclose HIV test results in connection with the reporting or prosecution of alleged abuse or neglect. We may release healthcare records, including treatment records and HIV test results, to the Food and Drug Administration when required by federal law. We may disclose healthcare records, except for HIV test results, for the purpose of reporting elder abuse or neglect, provided the subject of the abuse or neglect agrees, or if necessary to prevent serious harm. Records may be released for the reporting of domestic violence if necessary to protect the patient or community from imminent and substantial danger.

- **For health oversight activities.**  
We may disclose healthcare records, including treatment records, in response to a written request by any federal or state governmental agency to perform legally authorized functions, such as management audits, financial audits, program monitoring and evaluation, and facility or individual licensure or certification. HIV test results may not be released to federal or state governmental agencies, without written permission, except to the state epidemiologist for surveillance, investigation, or to control communicable diseases.
- **Judicial and Administrative Proceedings.**  
Patient healthcare records, including treatment records and HIV test result, may be disclosed pursuant to a lawful court order. A subpoena signed by a judge is sufficient to permit disclosure of all healthcare records except for HIV test results.
- **For activities related to death.**  
We may disclose patient healthcare records, except for treatment records, to a coroner or medical examiner for the purpose of completing a medical certificate or investigating a death. HIV test results may be disclosed under certain circumstances.
- **To avoid a serious threat to health or safety.**  
We may report a patient's name and other relevant data to the Department of Transportation if it is believed the patient's vision or physical or mental condition affects the patient's ability to exercise reasonable or ordinary control over a motor vehicle. Healthcare information, including treatment records and HIV test results, may be disclosed where disclosure is necessary to protect the patient or the community from imminent and substantial danger.
- **For worker's compensation.**  
We may disclose your health information to the extent such records are reasonably related to any injury for which workers compensation is claimed.

The Papale Eye Center will not make any other use or disclosure of your protected health information without your written authorization. You may revoke such authorization at any time, except to the extent that The Papale Eye Center has taken action in reliance thereon. Any revocation must be in writing.

#### Your Rights Regarding Your Protected Health Information

You are permitted to request that restrictions be placed on certain uses or disclosures of protected health information by The Papale Eye Center to carry out treatment, payment, or healthcare operations. You must request such a restriction in writing. We are not required to agree to your request, but if we do agree, we must adhere to the restriction, except when your protected health information is needed in an emergency treatment situation. In this event, information may be disclosed only to healthcare providers treating you. Also, a restriction would not apply when we are required by law to disclose certain healthcare information.

You have the right to review/obtain a copy of your healthcare records, with the exception of psychotherapy notes, or information compiled for use (or in anticipation for use) in a civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding. The Papale Eye Center may deny an access under other circumstances, in which you have the right to have such a denial reviewed. We may charge a reasonable fee for copying your records.

You may request the The Papale Eye Center send protected health information, including billing information, to you by alternative means or to alternative locations. You may also request that The Papale Eye Center not send information to a particular address or location or contact you at a specific location, perhaps your place of employment. This request must be submitted in writing. We will accommodate reasonable requests by you.

You have the right to request that The Papale Eye Center amend portions of your healthcare records, as long as such information is maintained by us. You must submit this request in writing, and under certain circumstances the request may be denied.

You may request to receive an accounting of the disclosures of your protected health information made by The Papale Eye Center for six years prior to the date of the request, beginning with disclosures made after April 14, 2003. We are not required, however, to record disclosures we make pursuant to a signed consent or authorization.

You may request and receive a paper copy of this notice, if you had previously received or agreed to receive the notice electronically.

Any person or patient may file a complaint with The Papale Eye Center and/or the Secretary of Health and Human Services if they believe their privacy rights have been violated. To file a complaint with The Papale Eye Center, please contact the Privacy Officer at the following:

Privacy Officer  
The Papale Eye Center  
1515 Allen St – Suite E  
Springfield, MA 01118  
(413) 782-0030

It is the policy of The Papale Eye Center that no retaliatory action will be made against any individual who submits or conveys a complaint of suspected or actual non-compliance or violation of the privacy standards.

This Notice of Privacy Practices is effective April 14, 2003.