

# RETINA CENTERS, P.C.

## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

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.

We understand that your health information is personal to you, and we are committed to protecting the information about you. This Notice of Privacy Practices (or "Notice") describes how we will use and disclose protected information and data that we receive or create related to your health care.

### Our Duties

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your health information, and to give you this Notice describing our legal duties and privacy practices. We are also required to follow the terms of the Notice currently in effect.

### How We May Use And Disclose Health Information About You

We will use or disclose your health information while providing, coordinating or managing your health care. For example, information obtained by a nurse, physician, or other member of your healthcare team will be recorded in your record and used to determine the course of treatment that should work best for you. Your physician will put his or her expectations of the members of your healthcare team in your record. Members of your healthcare team will then record the actions they took and their observations. In that way, the physicians will know how you are responding to treatment. We may also provide other healthcare providers with your information to assist him or her in treating you.

*Payment:* We will use and disclose your medical information to obtain or provide compensation or reimbursement for providing your health care. For example, we may send a bill to you or your health plan. The information on or accompanying the bill may include information that identifies you, as well as your diagnosis, procedures, and supplies used. As another example, we may disclose information about you to your health plan so that the health plan may determine your eligibility for payment for certain benefits.

*Health Care Operations:* We will use and disclose your health information to deal with certain administrative aspects of your health care, and to manage our business more efficiently. For example, members of our medical staff may use information in your health records to assess the quality of care and outcomes in your case and others like it. This information will then be used in an effort to improve the quality and effectiveness of the healthcare and services we provide.