

## **HIPAA 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.

This Notice of Privacy Practices describes how we may use and disclose your protected health information (PHI) to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations (TPO) and for other purposes that are permitted or required by law. It also describes your right to access and control your PHI. "Protected health information" is information about you, including demographic information, that may identify you and that relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health or condition and related health services.

<u>Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information</u>: Your protected health information may be used and disclosed by your physician, our office staff and others outside of our office who are involved in your care and treatment for the purpose of providing health care services to you, to pay your health care bills, to support the operation of the physician's practice and any other required by law.

<u>Treatment:</u> We will use and disclose your protected health information (PHI) to provide, coordinate, or manage your health care and any related services. This includes the coordination or management of your health care with a third party.

Example 1: We would disclose your PHI, as necessary, to a home health agency that provides

care to you.

Example 2: Your PHI may be provided to a physician to whom you have been referred to ensure

that the physician has the necessary information to diagnose or treat you.

<u>Payment:</u> Your protected health information will be used, as needed, to obtain payment for your health care services. For example, obtaining approval for a hospital stay may require that your relevant PHI be disclosed to the health plan to obtain approval for the hospital admission.

<u>Healthcare Operations</u>: We may use or disclose, as needed, your protected health information in order to support the business activities of your physician's practice. These activities include, but are not limited to: quality assessment activities, employee review activities, training of medical students, licensing and conducting or arranging for other business activities. For example, we may disclose your PHI to medical school students who see patients at our office. In addition, we may use a sign-in sheet at the registration desk where you will be asked to sign your name and indicate your physician. We may also call you by name in the waiting room when your physician is ready to see you. We may use or disclose your PHI, as necessary, to contact you to remind you of your appointment.

We may use or disclose your protected health information in the following situations without your authorization: as Required by Law; Public Health issues as required by law; Communicable Diseases; Health Oversight; Abuse or Neglect; Food and Drug Administration requirements; Legal Proceedings; Law Enforcement; Coroners, Funeral Directors and Organ Donation; Research; Criminal Activity; Military Activity and National Security; Workers' Compensation; Inmates; Required Uses and Disclosures. Under the law we must make disclosures to you and, when required by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, to investigate or determine our compliance with the requirements of Section 164.500.

Other Permitted and Required Uses and Disclosures will be made only with your consent, authorization or opportunity to object unless required by law.

You may revoke this authorization at any time, in writing, except to the extent that your physician or the physician's practice has taken an action in reliance on the use or disclosure indicated in the authorization.

Your Rights: Following is a statement of your rights with respect to your protected health information (PHI). You have the right to inspect and copy your PHI. Under federal law, however, you may not inspect or copy the following records: psychotherapy notes, information compiled in reasonable anticipation of, or use in, a civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding, and PHI that is subject to law that prohibits access to PHI.

You have the right to request a restriction of your protected health information (PHI). This means that you may ask us not to use or disclose any part of your PHI for the purposes of treatment, payment or healthcare operations. You may also request that any part of your PHI not be disclosed to family members or friends who may be involved in your care or for notification purposes as described in this Notice of Privacy Practices. Your request must state the specific restriction requested and to whom you want the restriction to apply.

Your physician is not required to agree to a restriction that you may request. If physician believes it is in your best interest to permit use and disclosure of your protected health information (PHI), your PHI will not be restricted. You then have the right to use another Healthcare Professional.

You have the right to request to receive confidential communications from us by alternative means or at an alternative location. You have the right to obtain a paper copy of this notice from us, upon request, even if you have agreed to accept this notice alternatively (i.e. electronically).

You may have the right to have your physician amend your protected health information. If we deny your request for amendment, you have the right to file a statement of disagreement with us and we may prepare a rebuttal to your statement and will provide you with a copy of any such rebuttal.

You have the right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures we have made, if any, of your protected health information.

We reserve the right to change the terms of this notice and will inform you by mail of any changes. You then have the right to object or withdraw as provided in this notice.

<u>Complaints:</u> You may complain to us or to the Secretary of Health and Human Services if you believe your privacy rights have been violated by us. You may file a complaint with us by notifying our privacy contact of your complaint. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

This notice was published and becomes effect	ctive on/or before:	October 24, 2009	
We are required by law to maintain the privacy practices with respect to protected has speak with our HIPPA Compliance Officer, F 480-559-0252.	iealth information. It	f von have any objection	e to this form places sale to
Signature below is only acknowledgement that	at you have received	this notice of our privacy	practices:
Print Name:	Signature:		Date:
Print Name: (Spouse or partner – if having services)	Signature:		Date:

Boston IVF of Arizona 8901 E. Mountain View Road, Suite 201 Scottsdale, AZ 85258 480-559-0252 • 480-661-4141 (fax) Rita Sneeringer, M.D., FACOG, Medical Director Linda Nelson, M.D., Ph.D., FACOG Rekha Matken, RNC, MS, WHNP-BC, Clinical Director



# **New Patient Information**

Thank you for choosing Boston IVF – The Arizona Center for your care. This sheet outlines what to expect at your first visit as well as our insurance and financial policies. Should you have questions at any time, please don't hesitate to ask a member of our staff. We welcome the opportunity to serve you and to make your visit with us a pleasurable and informative experience.

\*\*Please Note: You must sign the back page of this document\*\*

### **NEW PATIENT FORMS**

You will need to complete new patient paperwork prior to your first visit. If you do not choose to have these emailed to you, the new patient packet is on our website FertilityCentersArizona.com, and may be downloaded, printed and filled out prior to your appointment. If you do not fill out these intake forms prior to your appointment, please arrive 30 minutes before your appointment time to complete this paperwork in our office.

#### INSURANCE COVERAGE

Should you have coverage questions, our billing office will be happy to check your benefits prior to the day of your appointment. Please call Marie as far in advance with your insurance information so you won't find any surprise charges. Should you have a specialist co-pay, that will apply to our office. We accept Aetna, BCBS, Cigna, Humana, PHCS, TriCare and UnitedHealthcare. We also accept AHCCS, with the exception of Care First.

\*\*Please see reverse side for additional insurance information and our Financial Policy\*\*

#### YOUR APPOINTMENT

When you arrive at Boston IVF – The Arizona Center, please sign in at the front desk and take a seat in the waiting room (straight ahead, behind the glass panels). A member of our staff will come in to greet you and to collect your new patient forms. We will also make a copy of your insurance card at this time.

Your appointment will start with a member of our medical staff taking your vital signs, including your blood pressure, pulse and respiratory rate. The results of these will be recorded in your patient chart and reviewed by the physician.

If becoming pregnant is the reason for your visit, we will perform a routine physical exam at your initial appointment. Pregnancy is quite taxing on the body and can take the same toll as running a marathon for 9 months! To protect your health and the health of your future baby, we want to be certain any areas of concern have been identified before you become pregnant.

With the above information at hand, your doctor can spend your consultation time asking directed questions about your specific situation. The information you discuss with the doctor will be integrated with the history you've provided in the intake forms to determine the best course of action to help you achieve pregnancy. This may include suggestion for further testing or possible treatment options.

If the doctor suggests the drawing of blood for testing, in-depth review of treatment options and scheduling followup visits, you will meet with a member of our medical staff after your consultation.

If you have benefits questions, a co-pay or are self-paying for services, you will also meet with a member of our billing department during your new patient visit. All financial information will be reviewed with you including applicable insurance coverage and the costs of various procedures. Our goal is to always ensure you are aware of the true costs of all suggested testing and therapy.

(over)

## PARTICIPATING / CONTRACTED INSURANCE PLANS

Prior to your visit, we will *verify\** your insurance benefits for the services you may receive. You are encouraged to also verify coverage. Upon receipt of an insurance Explanation of Benefits (EOB), we will review your account and send you a statement for any balance due. If required, we will seek authorization prior to your visit. We will advise you if your insurance company requires that you register with their women's health or infertility department before beginning services.

## NON-PARTICIPATING / NON-CONTRACTED INSURANCE PLANS

Because infertility benefits are so specialized, and many health plans have consolidated, we always verify\* your insurance benefits for the services you may receive. We will report our findings to you prior to your appointment. If you have coverage, we will file a claim and ask that you pay your co-payment and co-insurance on the date of service. If required, we will seek authorization prior to your visit. We will advise you if your insurance company requires that you register with their women's health or infertility department before beginning services. Upon receipt of an insurance Explanation of Benefits (EOB), we will review your account and send you a statement for any balance due.

\* Despite our best efforts, verification of benefits is NOT A GUARANTEE OF COVERAGE. Your insurance makes this point very clear to us. Final disposition of coverage is made when they process a claim.

## SECONDARY INSURANCE PLANS

We will bill secondary insurance whenever applicable. The same provisions as listed above, apply.

#### CREDIT / REFUND

If a credit results on your account after an insurance claim is processed and posted, we are prepared to leave it on your account for future services or we can issue a refund to you. If you have an unpaid balance on another claim, we will apply your credit there and issue an updated account statement to you.

## FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

I understand that I am fully responsible to pay for any and all charges not otherwise covered by my insurance, if applicable. If an insurance payment for services rendered to Boston IVF – The Arizona Center, the Fertility Centers of Arizona or the Surgery Centers of Arizona is sent to me, I will promptly submit the payment to Boston IVF – The Arizona Center / the Fertility Centers of Arizona along with a copy of the related Explanation of Benefits (EOB). Should I not forward the insurance payment, I understand that I will be liable for the amount of the check and will remit payment by check, credit card or cash to Boston IVF – The Arizona Center / the Fertility Centers of Arizona.

Boston IVF – The Arizona Center promotes a positive account management experience. However, on the rare occasion that an account issue cannot be resolved, Boston IVF – The Arizona Center reserves the right to refer it to a third-party for collection. Any fees associated with this will be charged to the patient.

I have reviewed an	d understand this policy.		
Responsible Party:			
	(Printed Name)	·	
Responsible Party:			
•	(Signature Required)	(Date)	

Boston IVF – The Arizona Center • 8901 E. Mountain View Road, Suite 201 • Scottsdale, AZ 85258 480-559-0252 • 480-661-4141 (fax) • FertilityCentersArizona.com



# FEMALE INTAKE FORM

PT ACCT #:	
SP/PTN ACCT #: _	

TODAY'S DATE: \_

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Rita Sneeringer, MD, FACOG, Medical Director BostonIVF – The Arizona Center 8901 E. Mountain View Road, Suite 201 Scottsdale, AZ 85258 480.559.0252 480.661.4141 (fax) BIVFAZ.com

## Hysterosalpingogram & Sonohysterogram Instruction Sheet

#### **General Instructions:**

You will be asked to sign a form that states you have read these materials and have had your questions answered in a satisfactory fashion. Your clinician will be happy to answer any of your concerns prior to your signing the form.

We suggest that you take about 800mg of Ibuprofen (Advil) about 1 hour prior to the procedure. Other medications may be prescribed or given to you near the time of the procedure.

SHG and HSG are special procedures designed to allow an accurate view of the inside of the uterus and fallopian tubes. The SHG allows your doctor to evaluate and potentially treat abnormalities within the uterine cavity, specifically, if polyps, scar tissue (adhesions / synechiae) or masses are found. The HSG will determine if the fallopian tubes are open or blocked. Your doctor may order these tests if you have unusual or unscheduled uterine bleeding, have repeated miscarriages, if you are infertile, planning an assisted reproductive procedure (e.g. IVF) or for confirmation of the Essure implant (HSG test).

## What to Expect:

- 1. The procedure will be performed in our center's ambulatory surgery center which is located within The Arizona Center. Please empty your bladder before being taken to the procedure room.
- 2. Once inside the room, you will be asked to undress from the waist down.
- 3. Your physician will place a speculum and swab your cervix with a cleansing solution.
- 4. The doctor will inject a small amount of anesthesia (lidocaine) around the cervix to decrease any cramping during the procedure.
- 5. Both the SHG and HSG tests involve the insertion of a thin, flexible plastic tube into the cervix while instilling a small amount of sterile fluid. As your uterus fills with contrast, you may feel some pelvic cramping.
- 6. After the fallopian tubes have been identified, an ultrasound probe will be inserted into the vagina to visualize the uterus. If you are testing for Essure placement, an ultrasound will NOT be performed.
- 7. The procedure itself only takes a few minutes. You will be allowed to rest as long as necessary following the procedure. If time allows and your insurance company permits same day discussion, your physician will discuss the results with you directly after the procedure. Otherwise, your results will be forwarded to your referring doctor or you will be asked to schedule a follow-up to discuss the results.

## Complications:

- The most common side effect of these procedures are menstrual-like cramps and slight vaginal bleeding. You may also feel slightly dizzy following the procedure. These feelings resolve rapidly.
- Uterine perforation is a very rare complication of the procedure. The uterus is a rather hearty organ and has holes placed in it frequently without difficulty (such as what occurs with an amniocentesis). This complication has never happened in our office.
- Infrequently, patients have an allergic reaction to a medication given to you prior to or during the procedure. These allergies generally resolve quickly, but as a precaution, please make sure your medical team is aware of any known allergies you have.
- Every attempt is made to minimize the 1% infection rate associated with these procedures. Antibiotics may be given prior to and following a procedure, as directed by your doctor. If an infection does occur, oral or IV antibiotics and hospitalization will be needed. Rarely, as with any pelvic infection, surgery to remove infected organs may be necessary leading to sterility. Individuals who become infected were most likely previously infected and almost always have underlying tubal disease. The procedure rarely initiates a new infection, but rather, reactivates an underlying infection.

#### Post HSG / SHG Instructions:

**Activity:** Your normal activity may be resumed following the procedure.

Vaginal Discharge: A slight amount of vaginal discharge or bleeding may be present. Bleeding

heavier than a normal period is not normal and you should call the office at 480-559-0252. Please do not douche the same day as the procedure because your cervix may be more open allowing material to be flushed

back up the uterus and tubes resulting in a pelvic infection.

Sexual Intercourse: Vaginal intercourse may take place 24-48 hours following the procedure

unless the physician has instructed you otherwise.

Pain: You may take Motrin, Advil, Aleve or Tylenol for pelvic discomfort. Please

contact the office if there is an increase in abdominal pain not controlled

by these medications.

## WHEN YOU SHOULD CALL US

- Fever of ≥ 100.4°F, with temperature taken 2x, four hours apart
- Pain that does not improve with time or medication
- Heavy vaginal bleeding

If this information sheet does not answer your particular questions, please contact our office



## Sonohysterogram (SHG) Informed Consent

A sonohysterogram (SHG), or saline ultrasound, is an outpatient procedure that is performed to check for growths inside the uterus. The SHG can also detect fibroids, polyps, adhesions and/or other growths or scarring inside the uterus that may impede fertility.

### **Procedure**

The SHG typically takes about 5 minutes. After changing your clothes, you will be positioned on the exam table, similar to a pelvic exam. As the test begins, the doctor will place a speculum in the vagina and clean the cervix with a betadine solution. Next, a small catheter is placed through the cervix and a small amount of sterile water is put into the uterus. After the procedure, the doctor will discuss the test results with you. If a physician from a different office ordered your test, we will send them a written report of your results.

### After the SHG

You may want to use a sanitary napkin after your procedure to protect your clothing from any possible discharge or bleeding. Please do not use tampons. Side effects of the test are rare and generally minor when they occur. In most cases, they resolve within a day or two. Symptoms may include: vaginal discharge, mild menstrual-like cramps or slight vaginal bleeding or spotting.

#### **Risks and Complications**

Complications rarely occur during or after your SHG test. Uncommon problems may include injury to the uterus or a pelvic infection. If you experience any of the following: severe abdominal pain or cramping, heavy vaginal bleeding, temperature over 101 degrees, vomiting or fainting, please call our office at 480-559-0252 or go to the hospital emergency room.

I have reviewed the above information an regarding my sonohysterogram procedure	d have had an opportunity to have all of my questions answered.
Patient Name (Printed)	Patient Signature / Date