

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.

CIRCULOGENE NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

Circulogene is committed to maintaining the privacy of your protected health information (PHI) that is provided to us. This document specifies our privacy practices, including how we use and/or disclose your PHI in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and the regulations promulgated thereunder (the "HIPAA Privacy Standards"). As a covered entity, we are required to protect and maintain the privacy of all of your health information, to provide you with notice of our legal duties and privacy practices regarding PHI, and to abide by the terms of this Notice of Privacy Practices (Notice). PHI is information about you, including basic demographic information, that may identify you and that relates to your past, present or future physical or mental health condition, treatment, or payment for health services. This Notice describes how we may use and disclose your PHI to carry out treatment, payment for health care operations, and for other specified purposes that are permitted or required by law. The Notice also describes your rights with respect to your PHI.

Your Personal Health Information

In order to provide you with laboratory services, we receive your PHI from your healthcare provider or another laboratory that asked us to test your sample. We protect this information regardless of the form in which we receive it (e.g., oral, written, or recorded in other media).

You have the right to request your test results. To obtain these results, you must first complete the Circulogene Request for Access to Health Information form. Once you have submitted this form, we will respond to your request within 30 days. Please contact Circulogene Customer Care at 855-614-7083 or support@circulogene.com for more information.



Examples of Allowable Uses or Disclosures of Your Personal Health Information

The HIPAA Privacy Standards allow healthcare entities to receive and disclose your information without obtaining your authorization, for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations purposes. Each of these purposes is explained below.

- **Treatment:** When we receive a requisition for laboratory services requested by your healthcare provider or a referring laboratory, it contains your name, age, and other identifiable information. The disclosure of this information to us is considered treatment, as is our disclosure of the laboratory results to the referring laboratory or your healthcare provider.
- **Payment:** We may legitimately use and disclose your health information for payment purposes, for example, sending your information to a billing service to file claims for us with health plans or other payors.
- **Healthcare Operations:** We may disclose your information as part of our internal operations to maintain the high quality of our laboratory services. We may use or disclose protected health information, for instance, to assure quality, accreditation and certification, licensing, or credentialing activities.
- As required by law: We may use or disclose PHI if required to do so by state or federal law.
- **Disclosures to your representative and/or individuals involved in your care:** We may disclose your PHI to your friends or family members who are involved in your care, including those who are responsible for paying for your care. We may also disclose PHI to your personal representative, as established under applicable law, or to an administrator or authorized individual associated with your estate.
- **Disclosures to Business Associates**: We may disclose your PHI to certain of our service providers that have agreed to maintain the privacy and security thereof in accordance with the HIPAA Privacy standards.

Other Use and Disclosure When Required by Law

The HIPAA Privacy Standards specify certain other circumstances where we may legally use or disclose protected health information without your authorization; these situations generally are for public health and safety, legal, and judicial purposes.

- **Public health:** As required by law, we may disclose your health information to public health or legal authorities and other entities charged with preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability. We may also disclose health information for health oversight activities.
- Abuse, Neglect, or Domestic Violence: We may disclose PHI in certain cases to proper government authorities if we reasonably believe that a patient has been a victim of domestic violence, abuse, or neglect.



- Research: We may disclose information to researchers when an institution's review board (a committee that reviews the ethics of research projects) has reviewed the proposed study and established protocols to ensure the privacy of the health information used in their research and determined that the researcher does not need to obtain your authorization prior to using your PHI for research purposes. We may also disclose information about descendants to researchers under certain circumstances.
- **Organ procurement organizations:** We may disclose health information consistent with applicable law to organ procurement organizations or other entities for the purposes of tissue donation and transplant.
- **Coroners, Medical Examiners, Funeral Directors:** We may disclose PHI to a coroner or medical examiner to identify a deceased person and determine the cause of death or to funeral directors, as authorized by law, so that they may carry out their jobs.
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA): We may disclose to the FDA health information relative to adverse events with respect to product defects or post-marketing surveillance information to enable product recalls, repairs, or replacement.
- Workers compensation: We may disclose health information to the extent authorized by, and necessary to comply with, laws relating to workers compensation or other similar programs established by law.
- **Correctional institution:** If you are an inmate of a correctional institution, we may disclose to the institution or agents thereof health information necessary for the health and safety of other individuals.
- Law enforcement: We may disclose health information for law enforcement purposes as required by law or in response to a valid subpoena. We may also disclose health information to appropriate agencies if we believe there is the possibility of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.
- Judicial proceedings: We may disclose health information to courts or administrative agencies in response to a court order, or a discovery request. In the case of the latter, we will not disclose the information unless we are satisfied that you have been given notice of the request and have not objected, or the party seeking the information obtains an order protecting the information from further disclosure.
- **National Security; Intelligence Activities; Protective Service:** We may disclose health information to federal officials for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law, including activities related to the protection of the President, other authorized persons or foreign heads of state, or related to the conduct of special investigations.
- **Military:** We may disclose health information to appropriate domestic or foreign military authority in certain situations.

In All Other Situations We Use and Disclose Your Personal Information Only with Your Authorization



Except as otherwise permitted or required, we do not use or disclose your personal health information without your written authorization, including for marketing purposes and disclosures that would constitute the sale of PHI, and then we use or disclose it only in a manner consistent with the terms of that authorization. You may revoke the authorization to use or disclose any PHI at any time, by writing to the contact person listed in this Notice, unless we have already acted in reliance upon that authorization.

Your Rights With Respect to Your Personal Health Information

Under the HIPAA Privacy Standards, you have certain rights with respect to your PHI. As a clinical laboratory, Circulogene does not, as a matter of practice, deal directly with patients. Our contact for health information usually is your healthcare provider or another clinical laboratory. There may be unique circumstances in which Circulogene responds directly to patients, but these circumstances are limited.

To the extent possible and appropriate, you should contact your healthcare provider to exercise the rights listed in this Notice. We will try to accommodate requests from our healthcare provider clients, if legally permissible, and clinically appropriate to respond to your exercise of these rights, which include:

- **Right to Inspect and Copy Personal Health Information:** You have the right to request a copy your personal information as we have received it. You may ask for a copy of your test results, if you wish.
- **Right to Receive Personal Health Information via Confidential Communications:** You have the right to receive confidential communications of your PHI from us. We will send your personal information in a confidential manner. We will accommodate reasonable requests regarding confidential communications of PHI.
- **Right to Receive this Notice of Privacy Practices:** You can request and receive a free copy of this Notice in printed or electronic form by writing or calling the contact person listed in this Notice.
- **Right to Request Restrictions on Use or Disclosure:** You can request restrictions on certain uses and disclosures of their personal health information; we are not required to agree with the request unless the requested restriction involves a disclosure not required by law to a health plan for purposes of payment or health care operations, and you have paid for the applicable services in full out of pocket. If we do agree, we will not violate that restriction except in certain emergency situations. You may ask your healthcare provider to request that Circulogene restrict the disclosure of your test results, if you wish.
- **Right to Amend Personal Health Information:** You can request that we amend your personal health information or your clinical record. The HIPAA Privacy Standards provide that we can deny the request for amendment under certain specified circumstances. If we do deny your request to amend, we will explain why to you, and explain your rights to seek review of that decision, if required under the HIPAA Privacy Standards.



- **Right to Receive An Accounting of Disclosures of Personal Health Information**: You can get a written accounting of all of our disclosures of your personal health information not directly related to treatment, payment, healthcare operations, or disclosed based on a signed authorization or for other legitimate purposes as stated above. You may request that Circulogene provide an accounting of all disclosures of your test results, if you wish.
- **Right to Complain:** We are committed to complying with the privacy practices described in this Notice. If you believe that we have violated any of them, you may file a complaint with us and/or with the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights. To file a complaint with us, please send a letter to the contact person listed in this Notice. Circulogene will not retaliate in any way if you file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights or with us.
- **Right to be Notified of a Breach.** You have the right to be notified if there is a breach (a compromise to the security or privacy of your health information) due to your health information being unsecured. We are required to notify you within 60 days of discovery of such a breach.

Amendments to this Notice of Privacy Practices

We can revise or amend this Notice of Privacy Practices at any time and make the revisions effective for all personal information we receive and maintain, including any we created or received before the effective date of the revision or amendment. We will post the most recent version of this Notice on our website, at https://circulogene.com.

Access to Our Notice of Privacy Practices

You may request a copy of our current Notice of Privacy Practices, by writing to the contact person on this Notice. The current Notice of Privacy Practices is also available at our web site: <u>https://circulogene.com</u>.

Contacting Us Regarding our Privacy Practices

If you have any questions about our privacy practices or your personal health information, please contact us. Send questions, requests, or complaints to:

Circulogene Theranostics, Inc. Attn: Chief Compliance Officer 3125 Independence Drive, Suite 301 Birmingham, AL 35209 855-614-7083