

CALIFORNIA NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

The following replaces the “Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information” and “Other Uses and Disclosures” sections of the Shopko Notice of Privacy Practices in their entirety.

- To researchers when their research is approved by an institutional review board that has reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of your information.
- To the plan sponsor, insurer, or administrator of a group or individual plan or policy for the purpose of evaluating an application for coverage or benefits.
- To a probate court or domestic relations investigator.
- For disclosures authorized by law, including disclosures to the Food and Drug Administration.
- For disaster relief purposes.
- To business associates. There are some services provided by us through contracts with business associates. For example, we may use a collection service for overdue accounts. When we contract these services, we may disclose protected health information about you to our business associates so that they can perform the job we have asked them to do and bill you or your third-party payor for services rendered. To protect protected health information about you, we require all business associates to appropriately safeguard the protected health information.

California law limits disclosure of your medical information in ways that would otherwise be permitted under federal law. In the situations described below, the pharmacy will disclose your medical information as follows:

- The information may be disclosed to providers of health care, health care service plans, contractors or other health care professionals or facilities for purposes of diagnosis or treatment of the patient. This includes, in an emergency situation, the communication of patient information by radio transmission or other means between licensed emergency medical personnel at the scene of an emergency or in an emergency medical transport vehicle, and licensed emergency medical personnel at a health facility.
- The information may be disclosed to an insurer, employer, health care service plan, hospital service plan, employee benefit plan, governmental authority, contractor, or any other person or entity responsible for paying for health care services rendered to the patient to the extent necessary to allow responsibility for payment to be determined and payment to be made. If the patient is, by reason of a comatose or other disabling medical condition, unable to consent to the disclosure of medical information and no other arrangements have been made to pay for the health care services being rendered to the patient, the information may also be disclosed to a governmental authority to the extent necessary to determine the patient’s eligibility for, and to obtain payment under a governmental program for health care services being rendered to the patient. The information may also be disclosed to another provider of health care or health care service plan as necessary to assist the other provider or health care service plan in obtaining payment for health care services rendered by that provider of health care or health care service plan to the patient.
- The information may be disclosed to any person or entity that provides billing, claims management, medical data processing, or other administrative

services for providers of health care or health care service plans or for any of the persons or entities specified above. However, no information so disclosed may be further disclosed by the recipient in any way that would be violative of California laws governing the use and disclosure of medical information without authorization from the patient.

- The information may be disclosed to organized committees and agents of professional societies or of medical staffs of licensed hospitals, licensed health care service plans, professional standards review organizations, independent medical review organizations and their selected reviewers, utilization and quality control peer review organizations, contractors, or persons or organizations insuring, responsible for, or defending professional liability that a provider may incur, if the committees, agents, health care service plans, organizations, reviewers, contractors, or persons are engaged in reviewing the competence or qualifications of health care professionals or in reviewing health care services with respect to medical necessity, level of care, quality of care, or justification of charges.
- A provider of health care or health care service plan that has created medical information as a result of employment-related health care services to an employee conducted at the specific prior written request and expense of the employer may disclose to the employee's employer medical information that:
 - is relevant in a law suit, arbitration, grievance, or other claim or challenge to which the employer and the employee are parties and in which the patient has placed in issue his or her medical history, mental or physical condition, or treatment, provided that information may only be used or disclosed in connection with that proceeding.
 - describes functional limitations of the patient that may entitle the patient to leave from work for medical reasons or limit the patient's fitness to perform his or her present employment, provided that no statement of medical cause is included in the information disclosed.
- Unless the provider of health care or health care service plan is notified in writing of an agreement by the sponsor, insurer, or administrator to the contrary, the information may be disclosed to a sponsor, insurer, or administrator of a group or individual insured or uninsured plan or policy that the patient seeks coverage by or benefits from, if the information was created by the provider of health care or health care service plan as the result of services conducted at the specific prior written request and expense of the sponsor, insurer, or administrator for the purpose of evaluating the application for coverage or benefits.
- The information may be disclosed to a health care

service plan by providers of health care that contract with the health care service plan and may be transferred among providers of health care that contract with the health care service plan, for the purpose of administering the health care service plan. Medical information may not otherwise be disclosed by a health care service plan except in accordance with the provisions of this part.

- The information may be disclosed to an insurance institution, agent, or support organization of medical information if the insurance institution, agent, or support organization has complied with all requirements for obtaining the information pursuant to the requirements of the California Insurance Code provisions.
- The information may be disclosed to an organ procurement organization or a tissue bank processing the tissue of a decedent for transplantation into the body of another person, but only with respect to the donating decedent for the purpose of aiding the transplant.
- The information may be disclosed to a third party for purposes of encoding, encrypting, or otherwise anonymizing data. However, no information may be further disclosed by the recipient in any way that would be unauthorized manipulation of coded or encrypted medical information that reveals individually identifiable medical information
- For purposes of disease management programs and services, information may be disclosed to any entity contracting with a health care service plan or the health care service plan's contractors to monitor or administer care of enrollees for a covered benefit, provided that the disease management services and care are authorized by a treating physician or to any disease management organization that complies fully with the physician authorization requirements, provided that the health care service plan or its contractor provides or has provided a description of the disease management services to a treating physician or to the health care service plan's or contractor's network of physicians.
- To an oversight agency for activities authorized by law. These oversight activities include audits, investigations, and inspections, licensure and for the government to monitor the healthcare system, government programs, and compliance with civil rights laws.
- To a coroner or medical examiner. This may be necessary, for example, to identify a deceased person or to determine the cause of death. We may also disclose protected health information consistent with applicable law to funeral directors to carry out their duties.