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INFORMED CONSENT REGARDING EMAIL, TEXT OR THE INTERNET USE OF PROTECTED PERSONAL INFORMATION

Radiantly Healthy MD provides patients the opportunity to communicate with their physicians, health care providers, and administrative staff by email, text, online teleconferencing and online forms. Transmitting confidential health information this way, however, has a number of risks, both general and specific, that should be considered before utilizing this type of communication.

1. Risks
 - a. General risks include the following: these communications can be immediately broadcast worldwide and be received by many intended and unintended recipients; recipients can forward these messages to other recipients without the original sender(s) permission or knowledge; users can easily misaddress these communications. It is easier to falsify than handwritten or signed documents; backup copies of these communications may exist even after the sender or the recipient has deleted his/her copy.
 - b. Specific risks are the following: these communications containing information pertaining to diagnosis and/or treatment must be included in the protected personal health information; all individuals who have access to the protected personal health information will have access to these messages; patients who send or receive these communications from their place of employment risk having their employer read these messages.
2. It is policy of Radiantly Healthy MD that all messages sent or received which concern the diagnosis or treatment of a patient will be a part of that patient's protected personal health information and will treat such messages or internet communications with the same degree of confidentiality as afforded other portions of the protected personal health information. Radiantly Healthy MD will use reasonable means to protect the security and confidentiality of this communication. Because of the risks outlined above, we cannot, however, guarantee the security and confidentiality of these communications.
3. Patients must consent to the use of these communications for confidential medical information after having been informed of the above risks. Consent to the use of these communications includes agreement with the following conditions:
 - a. All emails to or from patients concerning diagnosis and/or treatment will be made a part of the protected personal health information. As a part of the protected personal health information, other individuals, such as Radiantly

Health MD physicians, nurses, other health care practitioners, insurance coordinators and upon written authorization other health care providers and insurers will have access to these messages contained in protected personal health information.

- b. Radiantly Healthy MD may forward these messages within the practice as necessary for diagnosis and treatment. Radiantly Healthy MD will not, however, forward these outside the practice without the consent of the patient as required by law.
- c. Radiantly Healthy MD will endeavor to read these communications promptly but can provide no assurance that the recipient of a particular message will read these messages promptly. Therefore, these types of communication must not be used in a medical emergency.
- d. Because some medical information is so sensitive that unauthorized disclosure can be very damaging, these types of communication should not be used for communications concerning diagnosis or treatment of AIDS/HIV infection; other sexually transmissible or communicable diseases, such as syphilis, gonorrhea, herpes, and the like; Behavioral health, Mental health, or developmental disability; or alcohol and drug abuse.
- e. Radiantly Healthy MD cannot guarantee that electronic communications will be private. However, we will take reasonable steps to protect the confidentiality of these types of communications, but Radiantly Healthy MD is not liable for improper disclosure of confidential information not caused by its employee's gross negligence or wanton misconduct.
- f. If consent is given for the use of these types of communication, it is the responsibility of the patient to inform Radiantly Healthy MD of any types of information you do not want to be sent in this manner.
- g. It is the responsibility of the patient to protect their password or other means of access to these communications sent or received from Radiantly Healthy MD to protect confidentiality. Radiantly Healthy MD is not liable for breaches of confidentiality caused by the patient.

Any further use of these communications initiated by the patient that discusses diagnosis or treatment constitutes informed consent to the foregoing.

I understand that my consent to the use of these communications may be withdrawn at any time by email or written communication to Radiantly Healthy MD.

I have read this form carefully and understand the risks and responsibilities associated with the use of these communications. I agree to assume all risks associated with the use of these communications.

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Name: _____ *Date:* _____

Signature: _____