

Patient Consent

PATIENT CONSENT FORM: FOR COLLECTION, USE AND DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Privacy of your personal information is an important part of our office providing you with quality dental care. We understand the importance of protecting your personal information. We are committed to collecting, using and disclosing your personal information responsibly. We also try to be as open and transparent as possible about the way we handle your personal information. It is important to us to provide this service to our patients.

In this office, Dr. Sharon Walden acts as the Privacy Information Officer.

All staff members who come in contact with your personal information are aware of the sensitive nature of the information that you have disclosed to us. They are all trained in the appropriate uses and protection of your information. Do not hesitate to discuss our policies with me or any member of our office staff.

How Our Office Collects, Uses and Discloses Patients, Personal Information

Our office understands the importance of protecting your personal information. To help you understand how we are doing that, we have outlined here how our office is using and disclosing your information.

This office will collect, use and disclose information about you for the following purposes:

- to deliver safe and efficient patient care
- to advise you of treatment options
- to establish and maintain communication with you
- to communicate with other treating health-care providers, including specialists and general dentists who are the referring dentists and/or peripheral dentists
- to book and confirm appointments
- to allow us to efficiently follow-up for treatment, care and billing
- to complete and submit dental claims for third party adjudication and payment
- to comply with legal and regulatory requirements, including the delivery of patients' charts and records to the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario in a timely fashion, when required, according to the provisions of the *Regulated Health Professions Act*
- to comply with agreements/undertakings entered into voluntarily by the member with the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario, including the delivery and/or review of patients' charts and records to the College in a timely fashion for regulatory and monitoring purposes
- to permit potential purchasers, practice brokers or advisors to evaluate the dental practice

- to allow potential purchasers, practice brokers or advisors to conduct an audit in preparation for a practice sale
- to deliver your charts and records to the dentist's insurance carrier to enable the insurance company to assess liability and quantify damages, if any
- to prepare materials for the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board (HPARB)
- to invoice for goods and services
- to process credit card payments
- to collect unpaid accounts
- to assist this office to comply with all regulatory requirements
- to comply generally with the law

By signing the consent section of this Patient Consent Form, you have agreed that you have given your informed consent to the collection, use and/or disclosure of your personal information for the purposes that are listed. If a new purpose arises for the use and/or disclosure of your personal information, we will seek your approval in advance.

Your information may be accessed by regulatory authorities under the terms of the *Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA)* for the purposes of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario fulfilling its mandate under the RHPA, and for the defense of a legal issue.

Our office will not under any conditions supply your insurer with your confidential medical history. In the event this kind of a request is made, we will forward the information directly to you for review, and for your specific consent.

When unusual requests are received, we will contact you for permission to release such information. We may also advise you if such a release is inappropriate. You may withdraw your consent for use or disclosure of your personal information, and we will explain the ramifications of that decision, and the process.

I have reviewed the information below that explains how your office will use my personal information, and the steps your office is taking to protect my information.

I know that your office has a Privacy Code, and I can ask to see the Code at any time.

I agree that all staff members employed at the dental office of Dr. Sharon Walden and Associates can collect, use and disclose personal information as set out below in the information about the office's privacy policies.

Signature _____ Print Name _____

Date _____ signature of witness _____