<u>Inmotion Chiropractic Health Center</u> <u>Notice of Privacy Practices – August 1, 2015</u>

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

The Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") is a federal program that requires that all medical records and other individually identifiable health information used or disclosed by us in any form, whether electronically, on paper, or orally are kept properly confidential. This Act gives you, the patient, significant new rights to understand and control how your health information is used. "HIPAA" provides penalties for covered entities that misuse personal health information.

Uses and disclosures of health information:

We use health information about you for treatment, to obtain payment for treatment, and for health care operations.

- **Treatment** means providing, coordinating, or managing health care and related services by one or more health care providers. An example of this would include coding for herbs or traction so the front desk can help the patient.
- Payment means such activities as obtaining reimbursement for services, confirming coverage, billing or collection
 activities, and utilization review. An example of this would be sending a bill for your visit to your insurance company for
 payment, and/or sending any necessary information requested by insurance to process claims.
- Health care operations include the business aspects of running our practice, such as conducting quality assessment and
 improvement activities, auditing functions, cost-management analysis, and customer service. An example would be an
 internal quality assessment review.

We may use or disclose identifiable health information about you without your authorization for several other reasons. Subject to certain requirements, we may give out health information within your authorization for public health purposes, for auditing purposes, for research studies, and for emergencies. We provide information when otherwise required by law, such as for law enforcement in specific circumstances. We also supply insurance companies with information necessary to process claims. In any other situation, we will ask for your written authorization before using or disclosing any identifiable health information about you. If you choose to sign an authorization to disclose information, you can later revoke that authorization to stop any future uses and disclosures, except to the extent that we have already taken actions relying on your authorization.

We may also create and distribute de-identified health information by removing all references to individually identifiable information.

We may contact you to provide appointment reminders or information about treatment alternatives or other health-related benefits and services that may be of interest to you. If you have provided you email address for the purpose of receiving our newsletters, we will only use it for the communication of the newsletter.

We may change our policies at any time. Before we make a significant change in our policies, we will change our notice and post the new notice in the waiting area and our website. You can also request a copy of our notice at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, contact the person listed below.

Individual Rights

In most cases, you have the right to look at or get a copy of heath information about you that we use to make decisions regarding your case. You also have the right to receive a list of instances where we have disclosed health information about you for reasons other than treatment, payment, or related administrative purposes. If you believe that information in your record is incorrect or if important information is missing, you have the right to request that we correct the existing information or add the missing information.

You may request in writing that we not use or disclose your information for treatment, payment and administrative purposes except when specifically authorized by you, when required by law, or in emergency circumstances. We will consider your request but are not legally required to accept it. If you are concerned that we have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your records, please contact us through the contact listed below. You also may send a written complaint to the U.S Department of Health and Human Services.

Our Legal Duty

We are required by law to protect the privacy of your information, provide this notice about our information practices, and follow the information practices that are described in this notice.

If you have any questions or complaints, please contact:

Privacy Officer Inmotion Chiropractic Health Center 7800 Clayton Rd. Saint .Louis, MO 63117 314-644-2081 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights 200 Independence Ave. SW Washington D.C. 20201 1-877-696-6775