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.

Certain healthcare operations of Excela Health participate in Health Information Exchanges.

Excela Health is required by law to keep your health information private and to inform you of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your health information. Please reference the “Health Information Exchange Standard” below for more information.

Who follows this notice? Excela Health provides easy access to a full range of services to meet your health care needs. The privacy practices described in this notice are followed by the employees, doctors, other professionals and volunteers who serve you at any of our locations including:

- Excela Health Medical Group
- Laurel Surgical Center
- McLaren CareMed Co. LLC
- The Luttrell Area Hospital Charity Foundation and Westmoreland/Frick Hospital Foundation

How we may use or disclose your health information

The Excela Health Mission is “improving the health and well-being of every life we touch.” We respect the privacy of your health information, including demographic, financial and medical information. We may use or disclose your health information for:

- Treatment provided to you. Example: Your health information may be accessed by anyone directly or indirectly involved in your care at Excela Health or provided to other health care providers as necessary for referral, consultation, continuing treatment and/or the provision of other treatment-related healthcare services.
- Providing your name, location, general condition and other information to your family or friends involved in your care.
- Information available through the HIE may be provided to others as necessary for referral, consultation, treatment and/or the provision of other treatment-related healthcare services to you. This includes notifying the relevant members of your care team such as your primary care physician or specialists that treat you of your admission to or discharge or transfer from one of our hospital facilities as long as such care team members can be identified.

- Payment sought for services provided to you. Examples: Your insurance company may require or request health information about you to pay a claim; we may provide health information to other health care providers to enable them to provide you services.

- Health care operations. Examples: We may review health information in an effort to maintain or improve quality, comply with health care regulations and/or insurance provisions, review or assess doctor privileges, coordinate your continued care needs, or seek legal representation regarding potential claims.

- You may make a written request to restrict the use and disclosure of your health information for treatment, payment or health care operations, or for purposes that require your oral approval or objection as previously noted. We are not required to agree to a requested restriction.

- Restricting certain disclosures of your health information to a health plan when you paid in full for the health service or item.

Accessing and copying your health information

In most cases, you have the right to review and get a copy of your health information maintained by Excela Health. In a few instances, we can deny access. If we deny access, we will inform you in writing. If you request a copy of your health information, we may charge a fee for the cost of copying and mailing this information to you.

- Requiring corrections in your health information. You may ask that we amend any of your health information if you believe it to be incorrect or incomplete. You must give us the reason why you believe the information is inaccurate or incomplete.
- Releasing confidential communications related to your health information.
- Accessing and copying your health information.

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What are your rights regarding your health information?

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