



Dear Parent,

Thank you for your interest in Chattering Children. Information regarding our program is enclosed along with forms that should be completed and returned prior to your first appointment.

Please include any medical, psychological, therapy, and/or educational reports that may assist us in better understanding your child.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Veronica Sabogal  
Chattering Children  
4880 MacArthur Boulevard, NW  
Washington, DC 20007

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202.333.1403, or by email at [vsabogal@chatteringchildren.org](mailto:vsabogal@chatteringchildren.org)

Sincerely yours,

Meredith Ouellette M.S., CCC-SLP  
Director of Clinical Services  
Chattering Children



## Pediatric Intake

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is the intake packet for all new clients. Please contact us at 202-333-1403 should you have any questions. Check that all forms are completed and documents are attached. You may return the forms by mail, fax, or email at your earliest convenience.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pediatric Case History
- \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Payment Information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Medical Record(s) Release
- \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance Information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Client Information Letter and Fee Schedule
- \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Beneficiary Notice regarding Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*Obtaining Health Insurance Coverage for DME
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*Policy on Accounts Receivable
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*Notice of Privacy Practices
- \_\_\_\_\_ Notice of Privacy Practices Signature Page
- \_\_\_\_\_ Outside Reports and Test Results
  - Audiological Information (e.g., audiogram, ABR/OAE test results, imaging, etc.)
  - Speech/language and/or developmental evaluation
  - Occupational, psychological, educational

*\*Keep for your records*



## CONTACT INFORMATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's information
Name:
Mailing address:
Home phone number:
Parent/Caregiver's contact information
Name:
Address (if different from above):
Employed by:
Home phone number:
Work phone number:
Cell phone number:
Email address:
Parent/Caregiver's contact information
Name:
Address (if different from above):
Employed by:
Home phone number:
Work phone number:
Cell phone number:
Email address:



## PEDIATRIC CASE HISTORY

### 1. General Information

Client Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_ Male

What is a convenient time to reach you by telephone? \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pediatrician: \_\_\_\_\_ Otolaryngologist (ENT): \_\_\_\_\_

List five words that describe your child:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How do you think Chattering Children might benefit your child?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 1. Family Information

Language(s) spoken at home: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Lives with: \_\_\_ both parents \_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_ Father \_\_\_ Other

Siblings:            Name                            Age                            Remarks

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Caregivers/extended family (babysitter, nanny, daycare, grandparents):

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Hearing History

- Do you have any concerns about your child's hearing? Yes / No
- If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does anyone in your family have hearing loss (immediate and extended family) that began before the age of 30? Yes / No
- If yes, please list: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does anyone in your family have night blindness? Yes / No
- Does your child have a history of ear infections? Yes / No
- Does your child consistently respond to your voice? Yes / No
- Does your child respond to loud noises? Yes / No
- When sound is present or someone is speaking, does your child search to find where the sound is coming from? Yes / No



More than just talk.

## PEDIATRIC CASE HISTORY CONTINUED

- Does your child respond to sounds from other rooms? Yes / No
- Does your child enjoy listening to music? Yes / No
- Has your child's hearing ever been tested? Yes / No
  - If yes, please list by whom, when and results: \_\_\_\_\_

### Pregnancy and Birth History:

At what hospital was your child born? \_\_\_\_\_

- Was the pregnancy abnormal in any way? Yes / No
  - If yes, briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- Was the delivery abnormal in any way? Yes / No
  - If yes, briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- Was the delivery premature? Yes / No
  - If yes, at how many weeks was your child born? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did your child stay in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for any period of time after birth? Yes / No
  - If yes, why and how long was the stay? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did your child undergo any medical or surgical treatment upon birth? Yes / No
  - If yes, please list treatment received. \_\_\_\_\_
- Did the mother have any illness during the pregnancy? Yes / No
  - If yes, briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- After birth did your child have difficulties? Yes / No (*check all that apply*)
  - Breathing
  - Require incubator
  - Any head, neck or ear abnormalities
  - Feeding problems
  - Surgery?
  - Any infections requiring medication?
  - Treatment for jaundice (yellow coloration of the skin)?

If yes, to any of the above, briefly explain:

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### Child's Medical History:

- Do you have medical concerns about your child?
  - If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_



## PEDIATRIC CASE HISTORY CONTINUED

- Please check if your child has had any of the following:
  - Ear infections
  - Ear surgery
  - Hospitalization
  - Head trauma/injury
  - Meningitis
  - Measles
  - Mumps
  - Chicken pox
  - Seizures
  - Kidney problems
  - Vision problems
  - Allergies
  - Asthma
  - Noise exposure (e.g., farm equipment, loud music, etc.)

Please list any prescription or over-the-counter medications your child is taking and for what reason(s):

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Other significant medical concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

Milestones: (fill in the approximate age at which the following occurred)

Sat up: \_\_\_\_\_ First Word: \_\_\_\_\_

Walked: \_\_\_\_\_ Two-word combined: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how your child communicates with you, and how you communicate with your child

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### 3. **Audiological Information**

Did your child pass the newborn hearing screening? Yes / No

If No please circle which ear referred (or both): Right / Left / Both

Cause of Hearing Loss: \_\_\_\_\_

Age at which Hearing loss was first diagnosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Audiologist: \_\_\_\_\_ Center testing was completed \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone#: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Last Audiogram: \_\_\_\_\_

(please include copies of most recent audiogram, ABR and/or OAE test results)

#### Assistive Listening Device Information

##### a) Hearing Aids

When was your child fitted with hearing aids? Date: \_\_\_\_\_

What make and model of hearing aid(s) does your child have?

RIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ LEFT \_\_\_\_\_



## PEDIATRIC CASE HISTORY CONTINUED

### b) Cochlear Implant

When did your child receive their implant?

Surgery Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Activation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Which ear? (please circle)    RIGHT    LEFT

If your child is bilaterally implanted when did they receive their second implant?

Surgery Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Activation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Which ear? (please circle)    RIGHT    LEFT

What center was your child implanted?

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ Implant Center(s): \_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of your child's surgeon? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of audiologist who performed the cochlear implant activation? \_\_\_\_\_

What implant manufacturer does your child use? (*i.e., Advanced Bionics, Cochlear, MED EL*)

RIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ LEFT \_\_\_\_\_

What model of implant (internal device) does your child have? (*e.g., Freedom, HiRes90K, Sonata, etc.*)

RIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ LEFT \_\_\_\_\_

What model of external processor does your child currently use? (*e.g., Naida, N6, Rondo, etc.*)

RIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ LEFT \_\_\_\_\_

What model of back-up external processor does your child use? (*e.g., Neptune, N5, Opus 2, etc.*)

RIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ LEFT \_\_\_\_\_

What is the date your child's device(s) were last programmed/mapped?

RIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ LEFT \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child

Turn to loud sounds? \_\_\_\_\_

Respond to: music \_\_\_\_\_ Door knock \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Own name \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Speech and Language History

a. Do you have any concerns about your child's speech and language? Yes / No

If yes, briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_

b. About what age did your child:

\_\_\_\_\_ Follow simple directions

\_\_\_\_\_ Say his/her first word

\_\_\_\_\_ Put two words together

c. Did your child continue adding words after the first word?

d. If your child is 2 years old or younger, how many words does he/she use?

e. Does your child often use gestures when communicating?



## PEDIATRIC CASE HISTORY CONTINUED

- f. Is your child's speech understood by:
  - Parents Yes / No
  - Siblings Yes / No
  - Adults Yes / No
- g. Has your child's speech ever been evaluated? Yes / No  
If yes, please list by whom, when and results: \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Is your child currently receiving speech therapy? Yes / No

### 5. School Settings and Schedule

Does your child attend nursery school/preschool/school? Yes / No  
 Name of School or Program \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child participate in any extracurricular activities? Please List.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Additional History

- a. Do you have any other concerns about your child? Yes / No  
If yes, briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Does your child:
  - o Play/interact well with other children? Yes / No
  - o Have attention/concentration difficulties? Yes / No
  - o Receive any special education services? Yes / No
 If yes to any of the above, briefly explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Do you feel your child is having difficulty at school? Yes / No  
If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

### 7. Statement of Nondiscriminatory Policy

Chattering Children admits children of any race, color and national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities it provides. The following information is optional and is used to collect statistical data:

Applicant's (child's) race: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)





## PEDIATRIC CASE HISTORY CONTINUED

**8. Other Evaluations:**

(Please include copies of any relevant evaluations or reports (e.g., IFSP/IEP, OT, Psychology, Educational, etc.)

Agency	Date

Does your child receive any other services? (e.g. speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychosocial, etc.) during the week? Yes / No

If yes, please list what type, frequency, duration, clinician, and center/school providing service: *Example. Speech therapy twice per week for 30 minutes with John Doe through Lincoln Elementary school*

Service	per week/month	number of minutes	clinician	center/school



## CREDIT CARD PAYMENT INFORMATION

I hereby authorize Chattering Children to charge my credit card for the purpose of all services rendered and equipment on behalf of myself or my child, \_\_\_\_\_.

I understand that the charges to the below referenced credit card account will be based on charges that are due and payable at the time of the credit card transaction.

I understand that this agreement is between myself and Chattering Children.

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Card: (circle one)                      VISA                      MASTER CARD

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

CVT CODE (3 digit security code/back of the card) \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card billing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## MEDICAL RECORD(S) RELEASE

From: Chattering Children

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

The medical records for the following individual(s):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill to Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

All Records  Surgical Notes Only  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Transfer of Records:

Change of Insurance to: \_\_\_\_\_

Relocation, if yes new address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize you to release any information including the diagnosis and records of any treatment or examination rendered for the above specified patient.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

As pursuant to Virginia Law (VA Code 8.01-413) charges will be as follows: A fee of \$15.00 for handling and a fee of \$ .50 per page up to 50 pages, plus \$ .25 per page for each page over 50 shall be posted to the patient account as one line item and the payment posted against it.

Example: A 62-page chart; \$25.00 (50 pages x \$0.50) + \$3.00 (12 pages x \$0.25) = \$28.00

Mailed on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Picked Up on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



## MEDICAL CLEARANCE FOR HEARING AID FITTING

Patient's name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I have provided a medical examination of the  right,  left,  both ear(s) for (*name of patient*) \_\_\_\_\_ on (*date of service*) \_\_\_\_\_ and certify that he/she may be considered a candidate for a hearing aid. I am therefore referring this patient for further audiological evaluation and testing.

Signature of physician \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Prospective hearing aid users under the age of 18 years of age must obtain a medical clearance from a physician (preferably one who specializes in diseases of the ear) prior to being fit with amplification. The medical clearance must have occurred in the last six months. Neither the child or their parent or guardian may waive this medical clearance requirement.**



## INSURANCE INFORMATION

Client's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

INSURANCE	PRIMARY	SECONDARY
Company Name:		
Subscriber's Name:		
Subscriber's Date of Birth:		
Insurance Mailing Address:		
Member ID #:		
Group #:		
Provider's Phone #:		

**\*\*\*\* PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR INSURANCE CARD**

**Please read carefully and sign below.**

I authorize Chattering Children to bill directly my/our insurance for services and/or durable medical equipment (DME) rendered. I understand that if an insurance payment is not received within 90 days of billing, Chattering Children will bill me for the amount, which will become due immediately. If after I pay the charges and an insurance payment is received at a later date, Chattering Children will credit my account and issue a refund. I understand that, under certain circumstances, therapy may be suspended until an overdue account is settled.

Signature of Client or Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use Only:**  
 Rep: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Initials: \_\_\_\_\_



**CLIENT INFORMATION LETTER AND FEE SCHEDULE  
Effective May 1, 2015**

**EVALUATION FEES**

Psycho-educational Testing	\$2,000 - \$3,500
Occupational Therapy Evaluation	\$700
Speech-Language Evaluation	\$450
Audiological Evaluations	\$200 - \$400
Central Auditory Processing Evaluation	\$350 - \$500

**TREATMENT FEES**

	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Group</b>
Occupational Therapy	\$150	\$100 per child
Speech-Language Therapy	\$150	\$100 per child
Psychological Testing	\$150	

Treatment fees are based on individual, 60-minute appointments. The therapist/tutor will use 5-10 minutes of each individual appointment to provide the parent with written and verbal feedback about that day's session.

**BILLING**

Services are billed monthly and can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. A \$25 service charge will be added for any returned checks. Chattering Children will bill insurance companies on your behalf. Chattering Children reserves the right to terminate a contract due to non-payment or repeated late payment.

**CANCELLATION POLICY**

**If you fail to cancel an appointment 24 hours in advance, you will be billed the full amount of the visit.** If your child becomes ill unexpectedly (e.g., during the school day), please notify us immediately for the absence to be considered excused. Our cancellation policy enables us to provide quality care, keep our charges reasonable, and retain our excellent staff.

**SNOW AND EMERGENCY CLOSING POLICY**

Chattering Children will only be closed when DC Public Schools are closed for snow or an emergency.

**SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION POLICY**

Chattering Children reserves the right to suspend services at any time and at its discretion.

**Please read carefully and sign below.** I authorize Chattering Children to bill directly my/our insurance for services and/or durable medical equipment (DME) rendered. I understand that if an insurance payment is not received within 90 days of billing, Chattering Children will bill me for the amount, which will become due immediately. If after I pay the charges and an insurance payment is received at a later date, Chattering Children will credit my account and issue a refund. I understand that, under certain circumstances, therapy may be suspended until an overdue account is settled.

Signature of Client or Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use Only:**  
 Rep: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Initials: \_\_\_\_\_



## ADVANCE BENEFICIARY NOTICE (ABN) DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Effective April 22, 2015

Chattering Children requires payment in advance for Durable Medical Equipment (DME). These include hearing aids, FM/DM systems, cochlear implant equipment, and any accessories/parts.

Chattering Children will obtain authorization from your health insurance to reimburse you for items covered by your plan. However, there is no guarantee that your insurance plan will cover the cost of the items received. The patient or the patient's legal guardian remains liable for payment of any DME received. Therefore, you are accepting personal financial responsibility.

Payment is due in full at the time the DME is dispensed with either a personal check, money order, cash, or Visa/Master Card. Chattering Children will then submit a courtesy bill to your health plan. If a partial payment is received by your health insurance, Chattering Children will reimburse you the amount that was collected. It typically takes a minimum of 30 to 45 days to receive reimbursement.

Please contact your health plan directly for details regarding coverage of DME. Use the telephone number listed on your insurance card and give the insurance representative your policy number and the date of service indicated on your invoice. The representative should be able to provide you with the coverage amount for DME and status of the claim.

CODE	DESCRIPTION	CODE	DESCRIPTION
V5257	Hearing Aid, digital, monaural, BTE	L8619	CI External Processor replacement
V5261	Hearing Aid, digital, binaural, BTE	L8621	Zinc air battery for CI
V5264	Custom Earmold/ear piece (Not disposable)	L8691	Auditory Osseointegrated device processor, replacement
V5265	Disposable ear mold, dome inserts, complied mold	L8692	Auditory Osseointegrated device processor, new
V5266	Battery for use in hearing device (HA, FM/DM)	L9900	CI/Bone anchored, supplies and accessories
V5267	Hearing Aid or ALD supplies/accessories	V5273	ALD for use with CI
V5014	Repair/Modification of hearing aid	V5286	ALD, Bluetooth FM/DM receiver
V5281	ALD, Personal FM/DM system, monaural	V5290	ALD, Personal FM/DM system, microphone
V5282	ALD, Personal FM/DM system, binaural		
V5283	ALD, Personal FM/DM system, neckloop		

You will be responsible for any unpaid balance of DME regardless of what the insurance covers.

I have received and read Chattering Children's *Policy on Durable Medical Equipment* and agree adhere to its terms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (print)



## Obtaining Health Insurance Coverage for DME

Depending on your health care provider coverage, DME may be covered either as new equipment or as a “replacement.”

Contact your health care provider by calling the member services phone number on the back of your insurance card and find out what is the specific coverage for DME under your plan

Below are examples of different codes you may need to provide depending on the equipment being purchased.

Hearing Aids	HCPCS or CPT Code
hearing aid monaural	V5261
hearing aids bilateral	V5257
Sound Processors	
cochlear implant processor	L8619
bone anchored hearing aid for use with softband	L8691
FM/DM Systems	
personal FM/DM system, monaural receiver	V5281
personal FM/DM system, binaural receivers	V5282

Typically, replacement of processors and/or hearing aids are covered under the DME benefits section of your health plan. *If you do not have DME benefits, ask your insurance provider if they will consider covering the billing code under your major medical benefits.*

Ask your health insurance representative:

1. If a prior authorization is needed. If NOT, ask if they will allow you to submit a “Predetermination of Benefits”. Prior authorization and predetermination are not guarantees of payment.
2. If they will process your claim at the in-network benefit level for processors since Advanced Bionics and Cochlear Corporation are the sole providers of cochlear implant products.
3. What are your out-of-pocket expenses, for example, co-insurance, deductibles, reimbursement rate of the hearing aid or processor, and if your policy has a DME maximum limit. If your plan does have a DME maximum limit, you will be responsible for any amount over that limit.
4. If a Letter of Medical Necessity is needed. If yes, request one from your healthcare provider.

As a courtesy we will submit the claim for reimbursement. However, if you want to submit charges you will need to ask your health insurance representative how to submit a claim for reimbursement.

***(keep for your records)***





## POLICY ON ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES

(Effective January 1, 2012)

1. **Please open and review your monthly statement as soon as you receive it.** It clearly states, monthwise, services rendered, charges, any payment we have received (from insurance, other third party, or from you, the client), how these payments have been applied to outstanding charges, the balance payment due from each month of services, and how old these unpaid charges are. If you dispute the numbers, have a question or simply need a clarification, call us immediately. This will help us keep your account up to date and accurate.

2. **The last line on the statement reads 'Total Amount Due from Client as of this statement'. Please note that you are expected to pay the amount that is due, not just the amount that is past due.** To allow for insurance processing time, we allow 90 days before an amount becomes past due. This is more than most clinics allow (at most other places, it is only 30 days). Please pay your outstanding balance as soon as you can, but in any case before it becomes past due (i.e., if you have an outstanding balance that is 60 days old in this copayment statement, pay it within this month; if unpaid, it will become 90 days old, or past due, on the last day of this month).

**If your insurance does not settle within 90 days or if they make a partial payment and you are expecting them to make an additional payment in the future, the charges are still considered past due if they are 90 days or over.** Please go ahead and clear them, and if your insurance settles (or makes an additional payment) at a future date, your account will be credited and, if your account shows a net credit, you will receive a prompt refund from us. {The previous paragraph does not apply to Aetna, Anthem, CareFirst, Sentara, Medicaid or Tricare subscribers who are only responsible for the amount their insurance company directs them to pay, for example, deductibles, copays per session and/or coinsurance. All other clients, please note that we are not participating providers with your insurance and, while we file the insurance claim for you as a service, you are ultimately responsible for all the charges.}

3. **We strongly encourage you to give us your credit card number and authorization to charge your credit card for any past-due amounts on the day they become past due.** We will try to give you a call a week before the past-due date and alert you to the upcoming charge. To avoid your credit card being charged, please pay the amounts on your statement that are 60 days or over within the following month.

4. **Under our new policy, any unpaid past-due amount will be charged an interest of \$1.50 per \$100 per month.** Outstanding balance that is past due is shown in bold lettering in your statement. Past dues are unacceptable. If they are not immediately cleared, your account will be deemed delinquent. Under our policy, further therapy may be suspended until your account is cleared of past-due charges.

5. **If a client consistently ignores past-due balances, the account will be turned over to our lawyer or a professional collection agency (this could affect the client's credit rating).** No one from Chattering Children will call the client prior to taking this step.

6. Co-pays are billed to clients after payment is received from your insurance company.

***(keep for your records)***



## 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. THE PRIVACY OF YOUR MEDICAL INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT TO US.*

### **Our Legal Duty**

We, Chattering Children, are required by applicable federal and state laws to maintain the privacy of your child's protected health information. We are also required to give you this notice about our privacy practices, our legal duties, and your rights concerning your child's protected health information. We must follow the privacy practices that are described in this notice while it is in effect. This notice takes effect April 14, 2003, and will remain in effect until we replace it.

We reserve the right to change our privacy practices and the terms of this notice at any time, provided that such changes are permitted by applicable law. We reserve the right to make the changes in our privacy practices and the new terms of our notice effective for all protected health information that we maintain, including medical information we created or received before we made the changes.

You may request a copy of our notice (or any subsequent revised notice) at any time. For more information about our privacy practices, or for additional copies of this notice, please contact us by using the information listed at the end of this notice.

### **Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information**

We will use and disclose your child's protected health information about your child for treatment, payment, and health care operations. The following are examples of the types of uses and disclosures of your child's protected health care information that may occur. These examples are not meant to be exhaustive, but to describe the types of uses and disclosures that may be made by our office.

*Treatment:* We will use and disclose your child's protected health information to provide, coordinate or manage your child's health care and any related services. This includes the coordination or management of your child's health care with a third party. For example, we would disclose your child's protected health information, as necessary, to a home health agency that provides care to your child. We will also disclose your child's protected health information to other physicians who may be treating your child. For example, your child's protected health information may be provided to a physician to whom you and your child have been referred, to ensure that the physician has the necessary information to diagnose or treat your child.

In addition, we may disclose your child's protected health information from time to time to another physician or health care provider (e.g., a specialist or laboratory) who, at the request of your physician, becomes involved in your child's care by providing assistance with your child's health care diagnosis or treatment to your physician.

*Payment:* Your child's protected health information will be used, as needed, to obtain payment for your child's health care services. This may include certain activities that your health insurance plan may undertake before it approves or pays for the health care services we recommend for your child, such as: making a determination of eligibility or coverage for insurance benefits, reviewing services provided to your child for protected health necessity, and undertaking utilization review activities.

*Health Care Operations:* We may use or disclose, as needed, your child's protected health information in order to conduct certain business and operational activities. These activities include, but are not limited to, quality assessment activities, employee review activities, training of students, licensing, and conducting or arranging for other business activities.

For example, we may use a sign-in sheet at the registration desk where you will be asked to sign your name as the parent or guardian of your child. We may also call you and/or your child by name in the waiting room when your child's doctor is ready to see you and your child. We may use or disclose your child's protected health information, as necessary, to contact you by telephone or mail a reminder to you regarding your child's appointment.

We will share your child's protected health information with third party "business associates" that perform various activities (e.g., billing, transcription services) for our practice. Whenever an arrangement between our office and a business associate involves the use or disclosure of your child's protected health information, we will have a written contract that contains terms that will protect the privacy of your child's protected health information.

We may use or disclose your child's protected health information, as necessary, to provide you with information about treatment alternatives or other health-related benefits and services that may be of interest to you and your child's health and/or treatment. We may also use and disclose your



## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

child's protected health information for other marketing activities. For example, your child's name and address may be used to send you a newsletter about our practice and the services we offer. We may also send you information about products or services that we believe may be beneficial to your child. You may contact us to request that these materials not be sent to you.

*Uses and Disclosures Based On Your Written Authorization:* Other uses and disclosures of your child's protected health information will be made only with your authorization, unless otherwise permitted or required by law as described below.

You may give us written authorization to use your child's protected health information or to disclose it to anyone for any purpose. If you give us an authorization, you may revoke it in writing at any time. Your revocation will not affect any use or disclosures permitted by your authorization while it was in effect. Without your written authorization, we will not disclose your child's health care information except as described in this notice.

*Others Involved in Your Health Care:* Unless you object, we may disclose to a member of your family, a relative, a close friend or any other person you identify, your child's protected health information that directly relates to that person's involvement in your child's health care. If you are unable to agree or object to such a disclosure, we may disclose such information as necessary if we determine that it is in your child's best interest based on our professional judgment. We may use or disclose protected health information to notify or assist in notifying a family member, personal representative or any other person that is responsible for your child's care of your location, general condition or death.

*Marketing:* We may use your child's protected health information to contact you with information about treatment alternatives that may be of interest to you and your child. We may disclose your child's protected health information to a business associate to assist us in these activities. Unless the information is provided to you by a general newsletter or in person or is for products or services of nominal value, you may opt out of receiving further such information by contacting us by using the information listed at the end of this notice.

*Research; Death; Organ Donation:* We may use or disclose your child's protected health information for research purposes in limited circumstances. We may disclose the protected health information of a deceased person to a coroner, protected health examiner, funeral director or organ procurement organization for certain purposes.

*Public Health and Safety:* We may disclose your child's protected health information to the extent necessary to avert a serious and imminent threat to your child's health or safety, or the health or safety of others. We may disclose your child's protected health information to a government agency authorized to oversee the health care system or government programs or its contractors, and to public health authorities for public health purposes.

*Health Oversight:* We may disclose your child's protected health information to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law, such as audits, investigations and inspections. Oversight agencies seeking this information include government agencies that oversee the health care system, government benefit programs, other government regulatory programs and civil rights laws.

*Abuse or Neglect:* We may disclose your child's protected health information to a public health authority that is authorized by law to receive reports of child abuse or neglect. In addition, we may disclose your child's protected health information if we believe that your child has been a victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence to the governmental entity or agency authorized to receive such information. In this case, the disclosure will be made consistent with the requirements of applicable federal and state laws.

*Food and Drug Administration:* We may disclose your child's protected health information to a person or company required by the Food and Drug Administration to report adverse events; product defects or problems or biologic product deviations; to track products; to enable product recalls; to make repairs or replacements; or to conduct post marketing surveillance, as required.

*Criminal Activity:* Consistent with applicable federal and state laws, we may disclose your child's protected health information, if we believe that the use or disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public. We may also disclose protected health information if it is necessary for law enforcement authorities to identify or apprehend an individual.

*Required by Law:* We may use or disclose your child's protected health information when we are required to do so by law. For example, we must disclose your child's protected health information to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request for purposes of determining whether we are in compliance with federal privacy laws. We may disclose your child's protected health information when authorized by workers' compensation or similar laws.

*Process and Proceedings:* We may disclose your child's protected health information in response to a court or administrative order, subpoena, discovery request or other lawful process, under certain circumstances. Under limited circumstances, such as a court order, warrant or grand jury subpoena, we may disclose your child's protected health information to law enforcement officials.



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**Law Enforcement:** We may disclose limited information to law enforcement officials concerning the protected health information of a suspect, fugitive, material witness, crime victim or missing person. We may disclose the protected health information of an inmate or other person in lawful custody to a law enforcement official or correctional institution under certain circumstances. We may disclose protected health information where necessary to assist law enforcement officials to capture an individual who has admitted to participation in a crime or has escaped from lawful custody.

### Patient Rights

**Access:** You have the right to look at or get copies of your child's protected health information, with limited exceptions. You must make a request in writing to the contact person listed herein to obtain access to your child's protected health information. You may also request access by sending us a letter to the address listed at the end of this notice. If you request copies, we will charge you \$25.00 for each page or \$10.00 per hour to locate and copy your child's protected health information, and postage if you want the copies mailed to you. If you would prefer, we will prepare a summary or an explanation of your child's protected health information for a fee. Please contact us using the information listed at the end of this notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.

**Accounting of Disclosures:** You have the right to receive a list of instances in which The River School or our business associates disclosed your child's protected health information for purposes other than for treatment, payment, health care operations, and certain other activities after April 14, 2003. After April 14, 2009, the accounting will be provided to you for the past six (6) years. We will provide you with the date on which we made the disclosure, the name of the person or entity to whom we disclosed your child's protected health information, a description of the protected health information we disclosed, the reason for the disclosure, and certain other information. If you request this list more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for responding to these additional requests. Please contact us using the information listed at the end of this notice for a full explanation of our fee structure.

**Restriction Requests:** You have the right to request that we place additional restrictions on our use or disclosure of your child's protected health information. We are not required to agree to these additional restrictions, but if we do, we will abide by our agreement (except in an emergency). Any agreement we may make to a request for additional restrictions must be in writing signed by a person authorized to make such an agreement on our behalf. We will not be bound unless our agreement is so memorialized in writing.

**Confidential Communication:** You have the right to request that we communicate with you in confidence about your child's protected health information by alternative means or to an alternative location. You must make your request in writing. We must accommodate your request if it is reasonable, specifies the alternative means or location, and continues to permit us to bill and collect payment from you.

**Amendment:** You have the right to request that we amend your child's protected health information. Your request must be in writing, and it must explain why the information should be amended. We may deny your request if we did not create the information you want amended or for certain other reasons. If we deny your request, we will provide you a written explanation. You may respond with a statement of disagreement to be appended to the information you wanted amended. If we accept your request to amend the information, we will make reasonable efforts to inform others, including people or entities you name, of the amendment and to include the changes in any future disclosures of that information.

**Electronic Notice:** If you receive this notice on our website or by electronic mail (e-mail), you are entitled to receive this notice in written form. Please contact us using the information listed at the end of this notice to obtain this notice in written form.

### Questions and Complaints

If you want more information about our privacy practices or have questions or concerns, please contact us using the information below. If you believe that we may have violated your privacy rights, or you disagree with a decision we made about access to your protected health information or in response to a request you made, you may complain to us using the contact information below. You also may submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We will provide you with the address to file your complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services upon request.

We support your right to protect the privacy of your child's protected health information. We will not retaliate in any way if you choose to file a complaint with us or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**Meredith S. Ouellette**  
**Privacy Officer, Chattering Children**  
 4880 MacArthur Blvd., NW, Washington, DC 20007  
 (202) 337-3554



## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

### SIGNATURE PAGE

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have received the Notice of Privacy Practices on  
(date) \_\_\_\_\_, given to me by Chattering Children. If I have any  
questions, or concerns, I realize that I can contact Meredith Ouellette, Chattering Children's  
Privacy Officer, at 202-337-3554.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date