

The Pediatric Center

Teen Privacy Policy and Web Portal Invitations (Both Parents and Teens should read)

Your health is very important to us as is your confidence and privacy. It is important to share some information between parents and children for optimal health and growth. It is also important that patients find their pediatric provider a safe person to discuss confidential concerns that may impact their health and safety. In order to best serve our patients, we have the following policies that families, by seeking care here, agree to follow.

By Connecticut State law, health records pertaining to certain counseling and treatment for reproductive health, psychological health and substance use for minors are confidential and can only be released with the minor's permission. Since we address these issues routinely and/or more specifically where it is, in our judgment, in the best interests of our patients, our health records may contain information considered confidential by our patients. Therefore, release of any records for a patient over the age of 12 years requires that patient's consent in writing.

During visits either the patient or the provider may request or suggest that a parent leave the room during some or all of the visit to ensure privacy. It is most appropriate for parents to return to the waiting room so as not to accidentally overhear private conversations. By leaving the room, parents (those present or not present) agree that that portion of the visit where they are not present is private and information disclosed there will not be shared without the patient's consent. This privacy is protected by our policy and State and Federal law. Certain laws and contracts may require us to disclose this private information, such as to insurance companies, to Child Protection or Public Health Agencies, or to other individuals in situations where not disclosing could result in significant and imminent physical harm to the patient or a third party.

Once a patient becomes 18 years old, they control all access to their healthcare information. They may allow parents or others to access it by completing our Designation Form.

Our patient portal may contain some information teen patients may wish to keep private, including certain diagnoses or problems, prescriptions and laboratory results. Teens and families need to decide how they will access the Web Portal and whether they will share such information.

Certain sensitive or confidential test results may not be posted on the portal.

The Portal provides access to recent diagnoses and problems, current and past prescriptions, laboratory results, immunization records, completed camp and school forms and other useful information. Users can securely message the office, request appointments and prescription refills as well as share information with other healthcare providers and specialists.

Please select an option on the reverse of this page.

Patient Portal Sign up:

Please choose **one** of the following options, both a parent (or the Responsible Adult for the patient) **AND** the patient must sign (Emails are required to send invitations to the Follow My Health Portal):

Option 1: **Parents** (or responsible adult) will manage the Portal as a proxy and have access to all information on it.

Parent email: _____

Note: Parents' access automatically terminated on patient's 18th birthday.

Parents may invite patient to view or or edit Portal information by selecting them as a "proxy" on the FollowMyHealth Website. Under the My Account tab, select "preferences" and "invite a proxy".

Option 2: **Patient** will manage the portal themselves and have access to all information on it. The patient must have a personal email for this option.

Patient's email _____

Patients may invite other persons to view or or edit Portal information by selecting them as a "proxy" on the FollowMyHealth Website. Under the My Account tab, select "preferences" and "invite a proxy".

Option 3: We **decline** to use the portal at this time.

Parent Signature

Patient Signature

Parent Name

Patient Name

Date

Date