

Website Privacy Policy

HMI Foot and Ankle Group, SC

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

1. Introduction

HMI Foot and Ankle Group, SC ("we," "our," or "us") is committed to protecting the privacy and security of our patients' and website visitors' information. This Privacy Policy explains how we collect, use, disclose, and safeguard information when you visit our website www.hmifootandankle.com.

This policy applies **only to information collected through our website** and does not replace our **HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices**, which governs how we use and disclose Protected Health Information (PHI) in clinical care.

2. Information We Collect

a. Personal Information You Provide

We may collect personal information that you voluntarily submit through our website, including:

- Name
- Email address
- Phone number
- Appointment request details
- Any information you include in contact or intake forms

⚠ Please do **not submit sensitive medical information through website forms unless explicitly instructed to do so through a secure portal.**

b. Automatically Collected Information

When you visit our website, we may automatically collect:

- IP address
- Browser type
- Device information
- Pages visited and time spent on the site

This information is used for website functionality, security, and analytics.

3. How We Use Your Information

We may use the information we collect to:

- Respond to inquiries or appointment requests
- Communicate with you about our services
- Improve website performance and user experience
- Maintain website security
- Comply with legal and regulatory obligations

4. Cookies and Tracking Technologies

Our website may use cookies or similar technologies to enhance functionality and analyze traffic. You can control cookies through your browser settings. Disabling cookies may affect certain features of the website.

5. Disclosure of Information

We do **not** sell or rent your personal information.

We may share information:

- With trusted service providers who assist in website hosting, analytics, or communications
- When required by law or to protect our rights and safety
- As otherwise permitted or required under applicable healthcare and privacy laws

Any vendors with access to data are required to maintain appropriate security and confidentiality.

6. HIPAA and Medical Information

If you are a patient of **HMI Foot and Ankle Group, SC**, your medical information is protected under the **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)**. How we use and disclose Protected Health Information is described in our **Notice of Privacy Practices**, available at our office or upon request.

Website communications are **not a substitute for secure patient portals**.

7. Data Security

We implement reasonable administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect your information. However, no internet transmission or storage system can be guaranteed to be 100% secure.

8. Third-Party Links

Our website may contain links to third-party websites. We are not responsible for the privacy practices or content of those sites. We encourage you to review their privacy policies.

9. Children's Privacy

Our website is not directed to children under the age of 13, and we do not knowingly collect personal information from children.

10. Your Privacy Rights

Depending on your state of residence, you may have rights regarding your personal information, including the right to request access, correction, or deletion, subject to applicable laws.

11. Changes to This Privacy Policy

We may update this Privacy Policy from time to time. Updates will be posted on this page with a revised effective date.

12. Text Messaging

All new patients are given the opportunity to consent or opt out of receiving text messages from our practice. By consenting to receive SMS/texts, you are verifying the following:

- You are consenting to receive messages from the business
- Your personal info will not be shared with third parties for marketing purposes
- Message frequency is limited to appointment reminders, notifications to call regarding finalized results, outstanding balances/statements, or requests for call backs when voicemail is not configured.
- You may reply STOP (or other keywords) to opt-out of future messaging
- You may reply HELP for more information
- Message and data rates may apply

13. Contact Us

If you have questions about this Privacy Policy or our privacy practices, please contact:

HMI Foot and Ankle Group, SC

Address:

Mokena: 19255 Everett Lane, Suite B, Mokena, IL 60448

Berwyn: 3231 Euclid Ave, Unit 400, Berwyn, IL 60402

Phone: 630.656.3171

Email: staff@hmifootandankle.com