

# ANTHEM PAIN MANAGEMENT

## SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER & PAIN-MANAGEMENT PRIVACY STATEMENT

### (42 CFR PART 2 & HIPAA)

Anthem Pain Management (“we,” “our,” or “us”) is committed to protecting the privacy and confidentiality of your health information, including information related to pain-management medications such as buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone). If we ever provide diagnosis, treatment, or referral for a substance use disorder, those specific records are additionally protected by federal law at 42 CFR Part 2 (“Part 2”), along with other applicable privacy laws such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”).

#### 1. CONFIDENTIALITY OF SUD TREATMENT INFORMATION

If you receive evaluation or treatment for a substance, use disorder from us, the records related to that care may be protected by Part 2. Part 2 generally prohibits us from disclosing information that would identify you as having a substance use disorder, or as receiving substance use disorder (SUD) diagnosis, treatment, or referral for treatment, unless:

- You give written consent that meets legal requirements.
  - A specific exception in Part 2 allows the disclosure; or
  - We are required or permitted to do so by other applicable laws that are consistent with Part 2.
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- You give written consent that meets legal requirements.
  - A specific exception in Part 2 allows the disclosure; or
  - We are required or permitted to do so by other applicable laws that are consistent with Part 2.

These protections apply whether the information is in paper, electronic, or verbal form.

Suboxone for pain only: Our practice may prescribe buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone) off label to help manage chronic pain. When we prescribe Suboxone solely for the treatment of pain and not for the diagnosis or treatment of opioid use disorder, those records are treated as general pain-management records and protected under HIPAA and other applicable privacy laws. In that situation, 42 CFR Part 2 generally does not apply to your Suboxone prescription records, unless they are part of a separate substance use disorder evaluation or treatment.

## 2. USES AND DISCLOSURES WITH YOUR WRITTEN CONSENT

Except in limited circumstances allowed by law, we will not use or disclose your SUD information without your written consent. With a properly completed and signed consent, we may disclose your SUD information for purposes such as:

- Coordinating your treatment with other health care providers (for example, your primary care provider, specialist, therapist, or pharmacy).
- Payment purposes (for example, billing your health plan or other payer for services, obtaining prior authorization, or verifying coverage).
- Health care operations (for example, quality improvement activities, staff training, accreditation, or audits of our practice).
- Any other specific purpose that you clearly authorize on the consent form.

You may revoke your consent at any time in writing, except to the extent we have already acted in reliance on that consent.

## 3. USES AND DISCLOSURES WITHOUT YOUR WRITTEN CONSENT

Federal law allows us to disclose certain SUD information without your prior written consent in limited situations, including:

- **Medical emergencies:** When necessary to treat a condition that poses an immediate threat to your health or the health or safety of others, and when your SUD information is needed to provide that treatment.
- **Research, audit, or evaluation:** To qualified persons or organizations conducting research, audits, or evaluations, when permitted by Part 2 and other applicable laws and subject to required privacy safeguards.
- **Qualified service organizations/business associates:** To entities that provide services to us (such as billing, information technology, or laboratory services) under a written agreement that requires them to protect your SUD information as required by Part 2 and HIPAA.
- **Court orders:** When a court orders disclosure in a manner that complies with Part 2.
- **Reports required by law:** For example, reports of suspected child abuse or neglect, or certain threats of serious harm, if and as required by applicable law.

We will disclose only the minimum amount of information necessary, consistent with legal requirements and our professional judgment.

#### 4. PROHIBITION ON REDISCLOSURE

Any person or organization that receives your SUD information from us is prohibited from redisclosing that information unless:

- You provide specific written consent for the redisclosure; or
- The redisclosure is expressly permitted by 42 CFR Part 2 or other applicable law.

Disclosures we make under Part 2 will include a notice substantially similar to:

“This information has been disclosed to you from records protected by Federal confidentiality rules (42 CFR Part 2). The Federal rules prohibit you from making any further disclosure of this information unless further disclosure is expressly permitted by the written consent of the person to whom it pertains or as otherwise permitted by 42 CFR Part 2. A general authorization for the release of medical or other information is NOT sufficient for this purpose.”

#### 5. YOUR RIGHTS

Subject to certain limitations under federal and state law, you generally have the right to:

- Request access to and a copy of your health records, including SUD information, to the extent permitted by law.
- Request an amendment to your records if you believe they are incorrect or incomplete.
- Request restrictions on certain uses or disclosures of your information (though we are not always required to agree).
- Request confidential communications (for example, asking us to contact you at a specific phone number or mailing address).
- Request an accounting of certain disclosures made without your consent, when applicable.
- Receive a copy of this privacy statement and any broader Notice of Privacy Practices that we maintain.

If HIPAA applies to your records, you may have additional rights under HIPAA, including rights related to electronic access to records and notification in the event of certain security incidents or breaches.

#### 6. SAFEGUARDS AND SECURITY

We use administrative, physical, and technical safeguards designed to protect the confidentiality and security of your SUD and other health information. These may include locked records areas, role-based access controls for electronic records, and staff training on privacy and security requirements. If there is a breach of your protected information, we will notify you as required by applicable law.

#### 7. QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR COMPLAINTS

If you have questions about this Substance, Use Disorder & Pain-Management Privacy Statement, want to exercise your rights, or believe your privacy rights have been violated, please contact:

Privacy Officer

Anthem Pain Management

41818 N Venture Dr, Suite \_\_\_\_

Anthem, AZ 85086

Phone: (623) 341-8469

Email: [AnthemPainManagement@yahoo.com](mailto:AnthemPainManagement@yahoo.com)

You may also file a complaint with the appropriate state or federal agency. You will not be retaliated against for filing a complaint in good faith.