



Rady Children's Hospital – San Diego
3020 Children's Way
San Diego, CA. 92123



PATIENT INFORMATION

Name: _____
MR#: _____ Finance: _____
DOB: _____
MD: _____

E-mail Authorization Form

Rady Children's Hospital – San Diego ("Hospital") and Children's Primary Care Medical Group ("CPCMG") and Children's Specialists of San Diego ("CSSD") (collectively "Rady Children's") offers patients or their legally authorized representatives the opportunity to communicate with clinicians by e-mail. Transmitting patient information by e-mail, however, has a number of risks that patients or their representatives should consider before giving their consent.

RISKS. These risks include, but are not limited to:

- 1. E-mail can be circulated, forwarded and stored in numerous paper and electronic files.
2. E-mail can be immediately broadcast worldwide and can be received by both intended and unintended recipients.
3. E-mail senders can misaddress e-mail.
4. E-mail can be more easily falsified than handwritten or signed documents.
5. Backup copies of e-mail may exist even after the sender or the recipient has deleted his or her copy.
6. Employers and on-line services have a right to archive and inspect e-mails transmitted through their systems.
7. E-mail can be intercepted, altered, forwarded, or used without permission or detection.
8. E-mail can be used to introduce viruses into computer systems.
9. E-mail can be used as evidence in court.

CONDITIONS. Rady Children's will use reasonable means to protect the security and confidentiality of e-mail information sent and received. However, because of the risks outlined above, Rady Children's cannot guarantee the security and confidentiality of e-mail communication, and will not be liable for improper disclosure of confidential information that is not caused by Rady Children's acts or omissions. In order for patients or their representatives to consent to the use of e-mail for patient information, consent to the use of e-mail includes agreement with the conditions and instructions set out in the attached "Conditions for the Use of Electronic Mail."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT. I acknowledge that I have read and fully understand the Authorization and Conditions for the Use of Electronic Mail. I understand the risks associated with the communication of e-mail between Rady Children's and me, and consent to the terms and conditions outlined herein. In addition, I agree to the instructions outlined herein, as well as any other instructions that Rady Children's may impose to communicate with patients by e-mail. Any questions I may have had were answered. If I wish to rescind my e-mail authorization, I will do so in writing to any person or department at Rady Children's with whom I correspond electronically.

E-mail address [Print clearly]: _____

Signature of Patient or Legal Representative

Date

Patient's Name (Print)

Name of Legal Representative (if applicable and relationship to patient)

Staff Signature and Date: _____

E-mail Alerts

CONDITIONS FOR THE USE OF ELECTRONIC MAIL

Prior to giving Rady Children's Hospital – San Diego, Children's Primary Care Medical Group, and Children's Specialists of San Diego (collectively "Rady Children's") consent to the use of e-mail, you must agree to the following conditions and instructions:

CONDITIONS

1. All e-mails to or from the patient (or representative) concerning diagnosis or treatment will be made part of the patient's medical record. Because they are part of the medical record, other individuals authorized to access the medical record as set out in the Rady Children's Joint Notice of Privacy Practices will have access to those e-mails.
2. Rady Children's may forward e-mails to Rady Children's personnel, medical staff and agents as necessary for diagnosis, treatment, reimbursement, and other handling. Rady Children's will not, however, forward e-mails to independent third parties, except as authorized or required by law, without the patient's prior written consent.
3. Although Rady Children's will try to read and respond promptly to an e-mail from a patient, Rady Children's cannot guarantee that any particular e-mail will be read and responded to within any particular period of time. The patient should NOT use e-mail for medical emergencies or time-sensitive matters.
4. If the patient's e-mail requires or invites a response from Rady Children's and the patient has not received a response within a reasonable time period, the patient is responsible for following-up to determine whether the intended recipient received the e-mail and when the recipient will respond.
5. The patient should not use e-mail for communication regarding sensitive medical information, such as information regarding sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS/HIV, mental health, developmental disability, or substance abuse.
6. The patient is responsible for informing Rady Children's of any types of information the patient does not want to be sent by e-mail, in addition to those set out in #5 above.
7. The patient is responsible for protecting his/her password or other means of access to e-mail. Rady Children's is not liable for breaches of confidentiality caused by the patient or other third party.
8. Rady Children's shall not engage in e-mail communication that is unlawful, such as unlawfully practicing medicine across state lines.
9. It is the patient's responsibility to follow-up and/or schedule an appointment as necessary.

INSTRUCTIONS. To communicate by e-mail, the patient shall:

1. Limit or avoid use of his/her employer's computer and/or family computers.
2. Inform Rady Children's of changes in his/her e-mail address.
3. Put the patient's name in the body of the e-mail.
4. Include the category of the communication in the e-mail's subject line for routing purposes, such as "billing question".
5. Review the e-mail to make sure it is clear and that all relevant information is provided before sending it to Rady Children's.
6. Inform Rady Children's that patient received e-mail from Rady Children's.
7. Take precautions to preserve the confidentiality of e-mails, such as using screen savers, safeguarding passwords.
8. Withdraw consent for use of e-mail by written communication to Rady Children's.