



Idaho Center for Reproductive Medicine

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Patient-Healthcare Provider (ICRM) Electronic Communication Agreement

Electronic communications, including, but not limited to, emails, text messaging, and internet-based video conferencing through such applications as Skype and “FaceTime” through devices such as computers, smartphones, and tablets (hereinafter “Electronic Communications”) provide an opportunity to communicate with your healthcare provider relative to issues that are **non-emergent, non-urgent or non-critical**. Electronic Communications are not a replacement for the interpersonal contact that is the very basis of the doctor-patient relationship.

The following is intended to assist you with your determination of whether you wish to supplement your healthcare experience by electronically communicating with members of the healthcare team at the Idaho Center for Reproductive Medicine (ICRM, “Healthcare Provider”).

General Considerations

- Your Healthcare Provider will treat Electronic Communications with the same degree of privacy and confidentiality as written medical records. ICRM has taken reasonable steps with internal information technology systems to protect the security and privacy of your personal identifying and health information in accordance with the security guidelines required by the Health Information Protection and Accountability Act of 1992, as amended (HIPAA.)
- Standard email services, including, but not limited to, AOL, Optonline, Hotmail, and Gmail, and text messaging through mobile phones and other electronic devices, are not secure. This means that such messages are not encrypted and can be intercepted and read by unauthorized individuals.
- Electronic communication via internet based video conference providers, including, but not limited to, Skype, claim to have safeguards in place to protect your personal information from unauthorized disclosure. However, there is the possibility that viruses, Trojans or other malicious software may obtain your private information on your computer system and release and/or use your information without your knowledge. There may be other risks associated with internet communication which are unknown at this time.
- Transmitting email or text messages that contain protected health information through a system that is not encrypted and electronic communication via internet based video conference providers may not meet the security guidelines as required by HIPAA.

I have read and understood the above description of the risks and responsibilities associated with Electronic Communications with ICRM. I acknowledge that commonly used Electronic Communications are not secure and fall outside of the security requirements set forth by HIPAA.

I understand that I can withdraw this consent authorizing ICRM to communicate with me via Electronic Communications at any time by written notification to ICRM.

I release and hold harmless ICRM, its physicians and their staff, employees, affiliates, agents, officers, directors and shareholders from any and all expenses, claims, actions, liabilities, attorney fees, damages, and losses of any kind that I may have resulting from Electronic Communications between ICRM and me based on this authorization given to ICRM to communicate with me via Electronic Communications. This release also includes IntegraMed America, Inc., ICRM’s management services company, and its officers, directors, employees, representatives, and agents.

Having been informed of the risks associated with Electronic Communications, I still desire to communicate with ICRM via electronic communications. In consideration for my desire to use Electronic Communications as an adjunct to in-person office visits with ICRM, I hereby authorize ICRM staff to engage in Electronic Communication with me.

Patient Signature

Date

Partner Signature

Date