

# **RR MedHealth Consulting, LLC**



## **GENERAL BILLING AGREEMENT & BAA**

# GENERAL BILLING AGREEMENT

THIS GENERAL SERVICE AGREEMENT (the "Agreement") is dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

CLIENT	CONTRACTOR
Company Name: _____	RR MedHealth Consulting, LLC
Location (city/state) _____	Jonesborough, TN (the "Contractor")
(the "Client")	

## BACKGROUND

- A. The Client is of the opinion that the Contractor has the necessary qualifications, experience and abilities to provide services to the Client.
- B. The Contractor is agreeable to providing such services to the Client on the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement.

**IN CONSIDERATION OF** the matters described above and of the mutual benefits and obligations set forth in this Agreement, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is hereby acknowledged, the Client and the Contractor (individually the "Party" and collectively the "Parties" to this Agreement) agree as follows:

## SERVICES PROVIDED

1. The Client hereby agrees to engage the Contractor to provide the Client with the following services (the "Services"):
  - Each month, you will be invoiced for each billable hour spent on your account. You will receive a detailed report of all hours that you are being charged for. This is a set hourly rate of \$20.00 per billable hour. **The monthly hours billed will not exceed 176 (this is in the months with odd days, but on average the hours will be 160 per month or less, this will always vary based on your account and the amount of time required to work on your claims);**
  - \$75.00 monthly software maintenance and access fee; and
  - A. Monthly billing fees (if applicable) are due upon receipt of invoice.  
B. If Client is using billing services, access to electronic remittances must be given to RR MedHealth Consulting for all electronically billed, crossover and paper claims. If at anytime this access is revoked and there is open A/R, the amount billed for any open claim will be posted in full and that invoice or patient file will be closed.

C. I understand that all electronic CC transactions are electronic payments and will be subject to a 3.5% service fee. If a CC payment is returned for any reason, I understand that the merchant will process the charge again within 10 days at their discretion and that an additional charge of 3.5 % e service fee and an NSF charge will be levied for each returned payment. Fees and/or charges will not be waived.

D. If your invoice is not paid in full by the due date, we will make two attempts to contact you as a reminder. If there is no contact from you and the invoice remains unpaid, we will send your file to collections and pursue legal action. We do report all delinquent and unpaid accounts to creditors. This includes suppliers and vendors which may impact your daily operations.

**Fees are non-refundable for billing and/or consulting services and files that are provided..**

2. The Services will also include any other tasks which the Parties may agree on. The Contractor hereby agrees to provide such Services to the Client.

## **TERM OF AGREEMENT**

3. The term of this Agreement (the "Term") will begin on the date of this Agreement and will remain in full force and effect indefinitely until terminated as provided in this Agreement.
4. In the event that either Party wishes to terminate this Agreement, that Party will be required to provide 30 days' written notice to the other Party.
5. In the event that either Party breaches a material provision under this Agreement, the non-defaulting Party may terminate this Agreement immediately and require the defaulting Party to indemnify the non-defaulting Party against all reasonable damages.
6. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement of the Parties.
7. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the obligations of the Contractor will end upon the termination of this Agreement.

## **PERFORMANCE**

8. The Parties agree to do everything necessary to ensure that the terms of this Agreement take effect.

## **CURRENCY**

9. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, all monetary amounts referred to in this Agreement are in USD (US Dollars).

## **COMPENSATION**

10. The Contractor will charge the Client for the Services at the rate of \$20.00 per hour (the "Compensation").

11. The Contractor will invoice the Client every month.
12. Invoices submitted by the Contractor to the Client are due upon receipt.
13. The Contractor will not be reimbursed for any expenses incurred in connection with providing the Services of this Agreement.

#### **INTEREST ON LATE PAYMENTS**

14. Interest payable on any overdue amounts under this Agreement is charged at a daily rate of 2.50% or at the maximum rate enforceable under applicable legislation, whichever is lower.

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

15. Confidential information (the "Confidential Information") refers to any data or information relating to the business of the Client which would reasonably be considered to be proprietary to the Client including, but not limited to, accounting records, business processes, and client records and that is not generally known in the industry of the Client and where the release of that Confidential Information could reasonably be expected to cause harm to the Client.
16. The Contractor agrees that they will not disclose, divulge, reveal, report or use, for any purpose, any Confidential Information which the Contractor has obtained, except as authorized by the Client or as required by law. The obligations of confidentiality will apply during the Term and will end on the termination of this Agreement except in the case of any Confidential Information which is a trade secret in which case those obligations will last indefinitely.
17. All written and oral information and material disclosed or provided by the Client to the Contractor under this Agreement is Confidential Information regardless of whether it was provided before or after the date of this Agreement or how it was provided to the Contractor.

#### **OWNERSHIP OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

18. All intellectual property and related material (the "Intellectual Property") that is developed or produced under this Agreement, will be the property of the Contractor. The Client is granted a non-exclusive limited-use license of this Intellectual Property.
19. Title, copyright, intellectual property rights and distribution rights of the Intellectual Property remain exclusively with the Contractor.

#### **RETURN OF PROPERTY**

20. Upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement, the Contractor will return to the Client any property, documentation, records, or Confidential Information which is the property of the Client.

#### **CAPACITY/INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

**21.** In providing the Services under this Agreement it is expressly agreed that the Contractor is acting as an independent contractor and not as an employee. The Contractor and the Client acknowledge that this Agreement does not create a partnership or joint venture between them, and is exclusively a contract for service. The Client is not required to pay, or make any contributions to, any social security, local, state or federal tax, unemployment compensation, workers' compensation, insurance premium, profit-sharing, pension or any other employee benefit for the Contractor during the Term. The Contractor is responsible for paying, and complying with reporting requirements for, all local, state and federal taxes related to payments made to the Contractor under this Agreement.

## **RIGHT OF SUBSTITUTION**

**22.** Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Contractor may, at the Contractor's absolute discretion, engage a third party sub-contractor to perform some or all of the obligations of the Contractor under this Agreement and the Client will not hire or engage any third parties to assist with the provision of the Services.

**23.** In the event that the Contractor hires a sub-contractor:

- the Contractor will pay the sub-contractor for its services and the Compensation will remain payable by the Client to the Contractor.
- for the purposes of the indemnification clause of this Agreement, the sub-contractor is an agent of the Contractor.

## **AUTONOMY**

**24.** Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Contractor will have full control over working time, methods, and decision making in relation to provision of the Services in accordance with the Agreement. The Contractor will work autonomously and not at the direction of the Client. However, the Contractor will be responsive to the reasonable needs and concerns of the Client.

## **EQUIPMENT**

**25.** Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Contractor will provide at the Contractor's own expense, any and all tools, machinery, equipment, raw materials, supplies, workwear and any other items or parts necessary to deliver the Services in accordance with the Agreement.

## **NO EXCLUSIVITY**

**26.** The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement is non-exclusive and that either Party will be free, during and after the Term, to engage or contract with third parties for the provision of services similar to the Services.

## **NOTICE**

**27.** All notices, requests, demands or other communications required or permitted by the terms of this Agreement will be given in writing and delivered to the Parties at their respective addresses or to such other address as either Party may from time to time notify the other, and will be deemed to be properly delivered (a) immediately upon being served personally, (b) two days after being deposited with the postal service if served by registered mail, or (c) the following day after being deposited with an overnight courier.

## **INDEMNIFICATION**

**28.** Except to the extent paid in settlement from any applicable insurance policies, and to the extent permitted by applicable law, each Party agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the other Party, and its respective directors, shareholders, affiliates, officers, agents, employees, and permitted successors and assigns against any and all claims, losses, damages, liabilities, penalties, punitive damages, expenses, reasonable legal fees and costs of any kind or amount whatsoever, which result from or arise out of any act or omission of the indemnifying party, its respective directors, shareholders, affiliates, officers, agents, employees, and permitted successors and assigns that occurs in connection with this Agreement. This indemnification will survive the termination of this Agreement.

## **ADDITIONAL CLAUSE**

**29.** In addition to those remedies provided for herein, both parties shall have available all remedies provided by law. Client represents and warrants that, except as previously disclosed in writing to Contractor, the following are true with respect to each party.

- Client's license or certification in any state has never been suspended, revoked, restricted, or deemed to be probationary;
- Client has never been reprimanded, sanctioned, or disciplined by any licensing or accrediting board;
- There has never been entered against Client a final judgment in a professional liability action and no action, based on an allegation of professional liability or malpractice by the Client has ever been settled by payment to the plaintiff;
- Client has never been denied enrollment privileges. Client has never been suspended, curtailed, or revoked; and As of the date hereof, Client has not been the subject of any report or disclosure submitted to the PECOS, CMS or OIG. Contractor agrees to provide professional services to Client remotely via email and telephone as agreed by Client. Contractor agrees to perform such services, at all times, in strict accordance with currently approved and accepted methods and practices in his or her profession. Client further agrees to provide services in a professional, timely and competent manner, and to comply with all applicable procedures and policies.

- Client will comply with CMS DMEPOS Quality Standards and 30 Supplier Standards at all times. If a client chooses to accept Telehealth/Lead Generated orders and submits them to the Contractor for billing, the Contractor reserves the right to refuse services and the Client would still be responsible for all monthly charges and fees that are due or outstanding. The Contractor will not advise, assist or engage in any process that involves Telehealth/Lead generated orders. If you are unsure of the issues associated with Telehealth/Lead Generated orders and DME, please educate yourself here ----->. [Nationwide Coordinated Law Enforcement Action to Combat Telemedicine, Clinical Laboratory, and Durable Medical Equipment Fraud](#)
- Client will comply with CMS and all State laws that require a licensed/certified individual to service a patient face to face, in person when providing certain products that must be delivered in person not via mail/drop ship. Client understands that failure to maintain proper staff and documentation may be construed as fraudulent behavior.

### **MODIFICATION OF AGREEMENT**

30. Any amendment or modification of this Agreement or additional obligation assumed by either Party in connection with this Agreement will only be binding if evidenced in writing signed by each Party or an authorized representative of each Party.

### **TIME OF THE ESSENCE**

31. Time is of the essence in this Agreement. No extension or variation of this Agreement will operate as a waiver of this provision.

### **ASSIGNMENT**

32. The Contractor will not voluntarily, or by operation of law, assign or otherwise transfer its obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Client.

### **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

33. It is agreed that there is no representation, warranty, collateral agreement or condition affecting this Agreement except as expressly provided in this Agreement.

### **ENUREMENT**

34. This Agreement will enure to the benefit of and be binding on the Parties and their respective heirs, executors, administrators and permitted successors and assigns.

**TITLES/HEADINGS**

35. Headings are inserted for the convenience of the Parties only and are not to be considered when interpreting this Agreement.

**GENDER**

36. Words in the singular mean and include the plural and vice versa. Words in the masculine mean and include the feminine and vice versa.

**GOVERNING LAW**

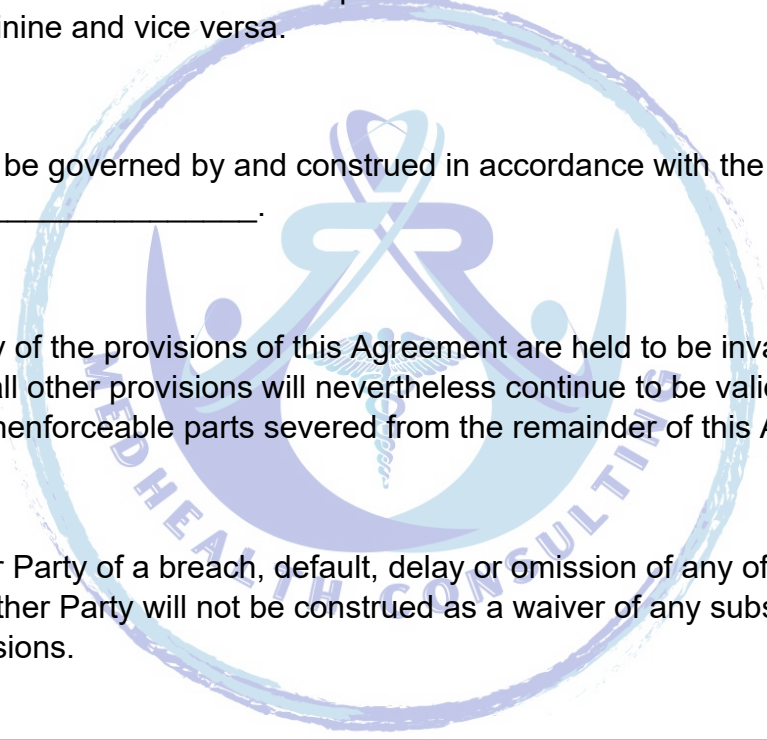
37. This Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the States of Tennessee and \_\_\_\_\_.

**SEVERABILITY**

38. In the event that any of the provisions of this Agreement are held to be invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part, all other provisions will nevertheless continue to be valid and enforceable with the invalid or unenforceable parts severed from the remainder of this Agreement.

**WAIVER**

39. The waiver by either Party of a breach, default, delay or omission of any of the provisions of this Agreement by the other Party will not be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or other provisions.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** the Parties have duly affixed their signatures under hand and seal on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Per: \_\_\_\_\_ (Seal)  
Officer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

RR MedHealth Consulting, LLC  
Per: \_\_\_\_\_ (Seal)  
Officer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## **BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT**

This BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (the "BAA") is made and entered into as of \_\_\_\_\_  
by and between ("Covered Entity") \_\_\_\_\_, an \_\_\_ LLC \_\_\_ Corp organized  
under the laws of \_\_\_\_\_ and ("Business Associate") \_\_\_\_\_  
an \_\_\_ LLC \_\_\_ Corp organized under the laws of \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with the meaning  
given to those terms at 45 CFR §164.501. In this BAA, Covered Entity and Business Associate are each a "Party" and,  
collectively, are the "Parties"

### Background

II. The Parties have entered into or will enter into one or more agreements under which Business Associate provides or will provide certain specified services to Covered Entity (collectively, the "Agreement");

III. In providing services pursuant to the Agreement, Business Associate will have access to Protected Health Information;

IV. By providing the services pursuant to the Agreement, Business Associate will become a "business associate" of the Covered Entity as such term is defined under HIPAA;

V. Both Parties are committed to complying with all federal and state laws governing the confidentiality and privacy of health information, including, but not limited to, the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information found at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E (collectively, the "Privacy Rule"); and

VI. Both Parties intend to protect the privacy and provide for the security of Protected Health Information disclosed to Business Associate pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, HIPAA and other applicable laws.

### **AGREEMENT**

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions contained herein and the continued provision of PHI by Covered Entity to Business Associate under the Agreement in reliance on this BAA, the Parties agree as follows:

**1. Definitions.** For purposes of this BAA, the Parties give the following meaning to each of the terms in this Section 1 below. Any capitalized term used in this BAA, but not otherwise defined, has the meaning given to that term in the Privacy Rule or pertinent law.

- A.** "Affiliate" means a subsidiary or affiliate of Covered Entity that is, or has been, considered a covered entity, as defined by HIPAA.
- B.** "Breach" means the acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of PHI in a manner not permitted under the Privacy Rule which compromises the security or privacy of the PHI, as defined in 45 CFR §164.402.
- C.** "Breach Notification Rule" means the portion of HIPAA set forth in Subpart D of 45 CFR Part 164.
- D.** "Data Aggregation" means, with respect to PHI created or received by Business Associate in its capacity as the "business associate" under HIPAA of Covered Entity, the combining of such PHI by Business Associate with the PHI received by Business Associate in its capacity as a business associate of one or more other "covered entity" under HIPAA, to permit data analyses that relate to the Health Care Operations (defined below) of the respective covered entities. The meaning of "data aggregation" in this BAA shall be consistent with the meaning given to that term in the Privacy Rule.
- E.** "Designated Record Set" has the meaning given to such term under the Privacy Rule, including 45 CFR §164.501.B.
- F.** "De-Identify" means to alter the PHI such that the resulting information meets the requirements described in 45 CFR §§164.514(a) and (b).
- G.** "Electronic PHI" means any PHI maintained in or transmitted by electronic media as defined in 45 CFR §160.103.
- H.** "Health Care Operations" has the meaning given to that term in 45 CFR §164.501.
- I.** "HHS" means the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- J.** "HITECH Act" means the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-005.
- K.** "Individual" has the same meaning given to that term in 45 CFR §§164.501 and 160.130 and includes a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR §164.502(g).
- L.** "Privacy Rule" means that portion of HIPAA set forth in 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E.

**M.** “Protected Health Information” or “PHI” has the meaning given to the term “protected health information” in 45 CFR §§164.501 and 160.103, limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity.

**N.** “Security Incident” means the attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with system operations in an information system.

**O.** “Security Rule” means the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Health Information provided in 45 CFR Part 160 & Part 164, Subparts A and C.

**P.** “Unsecured Protected Health Information” or “Unsecured PHI” means any “protected health information” as defined in 45 CFR §§164.501 and 160.103 that is not rendered unusable, unreadable or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals through the use of a technology or methodology specified by the HHS Secretary in the guidance issued pursuant to the HITECH Act and codified at 42 USC §17932(h).

## **2. Use and Disclosure of PHI.**

**A.** Except as otherwise provided in this BAA, Business Associate may use or disclose PHI as reasonably necessary to provide the services described in the Agreement to Covered Entity, and to undertake other activities of Business Associate permitted or required of Business Associate by this BAA or as required by law.

**B.** Except as otherwise limited by this BAA or federal or state law, Covered Entity authorizes Business Associate to use the PHI in its possession for the proper management and administration of Business Associate’s business and to carry out its legal responsibilities. Business Associate may disclose PHI for its proper management and administration, provided that (i) the disclosures are required by law; or (ii) Business Associate obtains, in writing, prior to making any disclosure to a third party (a) reasonable assurances from this third party that the PHI will be held confidential as provided under this BAA and used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to this third party and (b) an agreement from this third party to notify Business Associate immediately of any breaches of the confidentiality of the PHI, to the extent it has knowledge of the breach.

**C.** Business Associate will not use or disclose PHI in a manner other than as provided in this BAA, as permitted under the Privacy Rule, or as required by law. Business Associate will use or disclose PHI, to the extent practicable, as a limited data set or limited to the minimum necessary amount of PHI to carry out the intended purpose of the use or disclosure, in accordance with Section 13405(b) of the HITECH Act (codified at 42 USC §17935(b)) and any of the act’s implementing regulations adopted by HHS, for each use or disclosure of PHI.

**D.** Upon request, Business Associate will make available to Covered Entity any of Covered Entity’s PHI that Business Associate or any of its agents or subcontractors have in their possession.

**E.** Business Associate may use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities, consistent with 45 CFR §164.502(j)(1).

**3. Safeguards Against Misuse of PHI.** Business Associate will use appropriate safeguards to prevent the use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided by the Agreement or this BAA and Business Associate agrees to implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the Electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity. Business Associate agrees to take reasonable steps, including providing adequate training to its employees to ensure compliance with this BAA and to ensure that the actions or omissions of its employees or agents do not cause Business Associate to breach the terms of this BAA.

**4. Reporting Disclosures of PHI and Security Incidents.** Business Associate will report to Covered Entity in writing any use or disclosure of PHI not provided for by this BAA of which it becomes aware and Business Associate agrees to report to Covered Entity any Security Incident affecting Electronic PHI of Covered Entity of which it becomes aware. Business Associate agrees to report any such event within five business days of becoming aware of the event.

**5. Reporting Breaches of Unsecured PHI.** Business Associate will notify Covered Entity in writing promptly upon the discovery of any Breach of Unsecured PHI in accordance with the requirements set forth in 45 CFR §164.410, but in no case later than 30 calendar days after discovery of a Breach. Business Associate will reimburse Covered Entity for any costs incurred by it in complying with the requirements of Subpart D of 45 CFR §164 that are imposed on Covered Entity as a result of a Breach committed by Business Associate.

**6. Mitigation of Disclosures of PHI.** Business Associate will take reasonable measures to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of any use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate or its agents or subcontractors in violation of the requirements of this BAA.

**7. Agreements with Agents or Subcontractors.** Business Associate will ensure that any of its agents or subcontractors that have access to, or to which Business Associate provides, PHI agree in writing to the restrictions and conditions concerning uses and disclosures of PHI contained in this BAA and agree to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect any Electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains or transmits on behalf of Business Associate or, through the Business Associate, Covered Entity. Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity, or upstream Business Associate, of all subcontracts and agreements relating to the Agreement, where the subcontractor or agent receives PHI as described in section 1.M. of this BAA. Such notification shall occur within 30 (thirty) calendar days of the execution of the subcontract by placement of such notice on the Business Associate's primary website. Business Associate shall ensure that all subcontracts and agreements provide the same level of privacy and security as this BAA.

**8. Audit Report.** Upon request, Business Associate will provide Covered Entity, or upstream Business Associate, with a copy of its most recent independent HIPAA compliance report (AT-C 315), HITRUST certification or other mutually agreed upon independent standards based third party audit report. Covered entity agrees not to re-disclose Business Associate's audit report.

**9. Access to PHI by Individuals.**

**A.** Upon request, Business Associate agrees to furnish Covered Entity with copies of the PHI maintained by Business Associate in a Designated Record Set in the time and manner

designated by Covered Entity to enable Covered Entity to respond to an Individual's request for access to PHI under 45 CFR §164.524.

**B.** In the event any Individual or personal representative requests access to the Individual's PHI directly from Business Associate, Business Associate within ten business days, will forward that request to Covered Entity. Any disclosure of, or decision not to disclose, the PHI requested by an Individual or a personal representative and compliance with the requirements applicable to an Individual's right to obtain access to PHI shall be the sole responsibility of Covered Entity.

**10. Amendment of PHI.**

**A.** Upon request and instruction from Covered Entity, Business Associate will amend PHI or a record about an Individual in a Designated Record Set that is maintained by, or otherwise within the possession of, Business Associate as directed by Covered Entity in accordance with procedures established by 45 CFR §164.526. Any request by Covered Entity to amend such information will be completed by Business Associate within 15 business days of Covered Entity's request.

**B.** In the event that any Individual requests that Business Associate amend such Individual's PHI or record in a Designated Record Set, Business Associate within ten business days will forward this request to Covered Entity. Any amendment of, or decision not to amend, the PHI or record as requested by an Individual and compliance with the requirements applicable to an Individual's right to request an amendment of PHI will be the sole responsibility of Covered Entity.

**11. Accounting of Disclosures.**

**A.** Business Associate will document any disclosures of PHI made by it to account for such disclosures as required by 45 CFR §164.528(a). Business Associate also will make available information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request for an accounting of disclosures in accordance with 45 CFR §164.528. At a minimum, Business Associate will furnish Covered Entity the following with respect to any covered disclosures by Business Associate: (i) the date of disclosure of PHI; (ii) the name of the entity or person who received PHI, and, if known, the address of such entity or person; (iii) a brief description of the PHI disclosed; and (iv) a brief statement of the purpose of the disclosure which includes the basis for such disclosure.

**B.** Business Associate will furnish to Covered Entity information collected in accordance with this Section 10, within ten business days after written request by Covered Entity, to permit Covered Entity to make an accounting of disclosures as required by 45 CFR §164.528, or in the event that Covered Entity elects to provide an Individual with a list of its business associates, Business Associate will provide an accounting of its disclosures of PHI upon request of the Individual, if and to the extent that such accounting is required under the HITECH Act or under HHS regulations adopted in connection with the HITECH Act.

**C.** In the event an Individual delivers the initial request for an accounting directly to Business Associate, Business Associate will within ten business days forward such request to Covered Entity.

**12. Availability of Books and Records.** Business Associate will make available its internal practices, books, agreements, records, and policies and procedures relating to the use and disclosure of PHI, upon request, to the Secretary of HHS for purposes of determining Covered Entity's and Business Associate's compliance with HIPAA, and this BAA.

**13. Responsibilities of Covered Entity.** With regard to the use and/or disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate, Covered Entity agrees to:

**A.** Notify Business Associate of any limitation(s) in its notice of privacy practices in accordance with 45 CFR §164.520, to the extent that such limitation may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

**B.** Notify Business Associate of any changes in, or revocation of, permission by an Individual to use or disclose Protected Health Information, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

**C.** Notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR §164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

**D.** Except for data aggregation or management and administrative activities of Business Associate, Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under HIPAA if done by Covered Entity.

**14. Data Ownership.** Business Associate's data stewardship does not confer data ownership rights on Business Associate with respect to any data shared with it under the Agreement, including any and all forms thereof.

**15. Term and Termination.**

**A.** This BAA will become effective on the date first written above, and will continue in effect until all obligations of the Parties have been met under the Agreement and under this BAA.

**B.** Covered Entity may terminate immediately this BAA, the Agreement, and any other related agreements if Covered Entity makes a determination that Business Associate has breached a material term of this BAA and Business Associate has failed to cure that material breach, to Covered Entity's reasonable satisfaction, within 30 days after written notice from Covered Entity. Covered Entity may report the problem to the Secretary of HHS if termination is not feasible.

**C.** If Business Associate determines that Covered Entity has breached a material term of this BAA, then Business Associate will provide Covered Entity with written notice of the existence of the breach and shall provide Covered Entity with 30 days to cure the breach. Covered Entity's failure to cure the breach within the 30-day period will be grounds for immediate termination of the Agreement and this BAA by Business Associate. Business Associate may report the breach to HHS.

**D.** Upon termination of the Agreement or this BAA for any reason, all PHI maintained by Business Associate will be returned to Covered Entity or destroyed by Business Associate. Business Associate will not retain any copies of such information. This provision will apply to PHI in the possession of Business Associate's agents and subcontractors. If return or destruction of the PHI is not feasible, in Business Associate's reasonable judgment, Business Associate will furnish Covered Entity with notification, in writing, of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. Upon mutual agreement of the Parties that return or destruction of the PHI is infeasible, Business Associate will extend the protections of this BAA to such information for as long as Business Associate retains such information and will limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the information not feasible. The Parties understand that this Section 14.D. will survive any termination of this BAA.

**16. Effect of BAA.**

**A.** This BAA is a part of and subject to the terms of the Agreement, except that to the extent any terms of this BAA conflict with any term of the Agreement, the terms of this BAA will govern.

**B.** Except as expressly stated in this BAA or as provided by law, this BAA will not create any rights in favor of any third party.

**17. Regulatory References.** A reference in this BAA to a section in HIPAA means the section as in effect or as amended at the time.

**18. Notices.** All notices, requests and demands or other communications to be given under this BAA to a Party will be made via either first class mail, registered or certified or express courier, or electronic mail.

**19. Amendments and Waiver.** This BAA may not be modified, nor will any provision be waived or amended, except in writing duly signed by authorized representatives of the Parties. A waiver with respect to one event shall not be construed as continuing, or as a bar to or waiver of any right or remedy as to subsequent events.

**20. HITECH Act Compliance.** The Parties acknowledge that the HITECH Act includes significant changes to the Privacy Rule and the Security Rule. The privacy subtitle of the HITECH Act sets forth provisions that significantly change the requirements for business associates and the agreements between business associates and covered entities under HIPAA and these changes may be further clarified in forthcoming regulations and guidance. Each Party agrees to comply with the applicable provisions of the HITECH Act and any HHS regulations issued with respect to the HITECH Act. The Parties also agree to negotiate in good faith to modify this BAA as reasonably necessary to comply with the HITECH Act and its regulations as they become effective but, in the event that the Parties are unable to reach agreement on such a modification, either Party will have the right to terminate this BAA upon 30-days' prior written notice to the other Party. In light of the mutual agreement and understanding described above, the Parties execute this BAA as of the date first written above.

In light of the mutual agreement and understanding described above, the Parties execute this BAA as of the date first written above.

Signature  
Covered  
Entity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Title:

Signature  
Business  
Associate:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Title: