## Bolton's Pharmacy Inc. NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES (NOPP)

DATE OF NOTICE: 3/18/2003

## SECTION A: Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information

- 1. Under applicable law, we are required to protect the privacy of your individual health information (information we refer to in this notice as "Protected Health information here on PHI"). We are also required to provide you with this Notice regarding our policies and procedures regarding your PHI and to abide by the terms of this notice, as it may be updated from time to time.
  - We are permitted to make certain types of uses and disclosures under the applicable law for treatment, payment, and healthcare operations purposes. We may obtain information to dispense prescriptions and for the documentation of pertinent information in your records that may assist us in managing your medication therapy or your overall health. For treatment purposes, such use and disclosure will take place in providing, coordinating, or managing healthcare and its related services by one or more of your providers, such as when your pharmacist consults with your physician regarding your medications, treatment, or condition.
  - For payment purposes, such use and disclosure will take place to obtain or provide reimbursement for providing pharmaceutical care services, such as when your case is reviewed to ensure that appropriate care was rendered. For reimbursement purposes, your PHI may be disclosed to one or several intermediaries employed by your plan sponsor including but not limited to insurers, pharmacy benefits managers, claims administrators and computer switching companies.
  - We store some of your PHI in electronic computer files. We backup our electronic records daily and employ other precautions to safeguard the integrity of your PHI. In spite of these precautions it is possible but unlikely that a computer may crash or other technological failure could cause the loss of data. In addition, reasonable safeguards are employed to protect your PHI stored on electronic media.
  - In addition, we may contact you to provide refill reminders, health screenings, wellness events, inoculations, vaccinations, information about treatment alternatives or other health-related benefits and services that may be of interest to you. In addition, we may disclose your health information to your plan sponsor.
  - We may use and disclose your PHI, without your authorization when the pharmacy needs to contact a physician or physician's staff and is permitted or required to do so without individual written authorization. We may use and disclose your PHI if we are contacted by another pharmacy who states they have your request and consent to transfer pharmacy records to them.

- From time to time we may employ the services of business associates who may assist u s in one or more tasks and who may use, change, or create PHI. Business associates required to comply with all the privacy regulations on your behalf.
- We may disclose PHI about you without your authorization to comply with workers compensation laws, as required by law enforcement, legal proceedings, public health requirements, health oversight activities and as required by law.
- Other uses and disclosures will be made only with your written authorization, and you may revoke your authorization by notifying us as described in Section B.
- 2. You may ask us to restrict uses and disclosures of your PHI to carry out treatment, payment, or healthcare operations, or to restrict uses and disclosures to family members, relatives, friends, or other persons identified by you who are involved in your care or payment for your care. However, we are not required to agree to your request.
- 3. You have the right to request the following with respect to your PHI: (i) inspection and copying; (ii) amendment or correction; (iii) an accounting of the disclosures of this information by us (we are not required to account to you for such disclosures made for treatment, payment, operations, disclosures to you, disclosures to your care givers, for notifications or as otherwise excluded by law); and (iv) the right to receive a paper copy of this notice upon request. We may require you pay for this request to cover our costs of copying, labor and postage.
  - In addition, you may request, and we must accommodate the request, if reasonable, to receive communications of PHI by alternative means or at alternative locations. To make this request please contact, in writing to the address shown in Section B.
- 4. We may use your name to reference your prescriptions and pharmaceutical care services. You may be required to sign a signature log form to acknowledge receipt of your service, to acknowledge receipt of this Notice and the disclosure of PHI as outlined herein. We may disclose this information to other persons who ask for you or your prescriptions by name. You may restrict or prohibit these uses and disclosures by notifying a pharmacy representative orally or in writing of your restriction or prohibition. We are not required to honor those requests. We are able to provide treatment services to your even if you object to sign the acknowledgment of the receipt of this Notice or if we decide not to honor a request regarding the information in this document. In the event of an emergency or your incapacity, we will do in our reasonable judgment what is consistent with your known preference, and what we determine to be in your best interest. We will inform you of any such uses or disclosures if uses and disclosures would require your signed

- authorization under such circumstances and give you an opportunity to object as soon as practicable.
- 5. Unless you object we may disclose to one of your family members, to a relative, to a close personal friend, or to any other person, PHI that is directly relevant to the person's involvement with your care or payment related to your care. In addition we may use or disclose the PHI to notify, identify, or locate a member of your family, your personal representative, another person responsible for care, or certain disaster relief agencies of your location, general condition, or death. If you are incapacitated, there is an emergency, or you object to this use of disclosure, we will do in our judgment what is in your best interest regarding such disclosure and will disclose only the information that is directly relevant to the person's involvement with your healthcare. We will also use our judgment and experience regarding your best interest in allowing people to pick-up filled prescriptions, or other similar forms of PHI.
- 6. We reserve the right to change the terms of this Notice and to make new Notice provisions effective for all PHI we maintain. You may receive a copy of this Notice by contacting us as outlined in Section B or upon the receipt of pharmacy care services.
- 7. If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated, you may complain to us at the location described in Section B or to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Huber H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20201. You will not be retaliated against for filing a complaint.

## **SECTION B: Contacting Us**

You may contact us for further information at:

Bolton's Pharmacy Patricia V Signor 128 West Main St. Watertown, NY 13601