



Virginia Natural Health

Privacy Policy and Legal Notice

Virginia Natural Health (VNH) complies with all aspects of the federal HIPPA law, which stipulates your rights as a medical patient. At VNH you have the right to the following:

- All of your medical records in our possession are controlled so that only your medical provider and essential office staff are allowed to see the contents of your records.
- Your records will not be shared with anyone outside of this office except for the very rare occasions as mandated by law, including a court order, or in cases where the law mandates that we act to preserve life by breaking confidentiality, as in the case where we firmly believe that you might endanger the life of another or yourself.
- Clinics that contract with insurance companies are required by contract to divulge records to the insurance company. Because of this we do NOT accept insurance and we will NOT share your records with outside private companies.
- At VNH we believe that your medical records are YOUR medical records. You may request a copy of your records and we will make you a copy within 5 working days of your request. We may charge you reasonable copying fees for this service. Your "records" include anything actually in your chart, but does not include incidental notes that doctors may make for their own use but which are never entered into the official chart notes. The HIPPA law allows doctors to refuse a request for records in extremely rare and unusual cases.
- We will not confirm or deny that you are a patient of our clinic, even to your family members, unless you give us explicit permission to do so. Your right to seek medical care with complete confidentiality is a right we take seriously.
- At VNH we take seriously our obligation to advance medical knowledge and to increase the skill of doctors of all types. Occasionally we will use cases from our clinic in teaching settings. We will NEVER use your case or the details of your case without first getting your written permission to do so. When we use a clinic case history we edit the history so that your name is never used, no details are divulged that would allow anyone to identify you personally, and, again, we will use your story only with your permission. We encourage you to consider allowing your case history to be used for teaching purposes, but the decision to do so is yours and yours alone.

If you have any questions or concerns about our privacy policy, or your rights as a patient in our clinic, please bring them to us at your earliest convenience.

Note:

Dr. Butchart is a Licensed Primary Care Family Physician in the District of Columbia. The State of Virginia does not currently offer licensure for Naturopathic Physicians so it must be clear that the Doctors at Virginia Natural Health are not legally allowed to diagnose or treat a specific condition. We will work with you as health consultants to assist you in optimizing your overall state of health through a safe and natural approach. We will suggest to you a course of care to help you achieve your health goals. Serious or emergent health concerns should be managed by a licensed physician.

I understand the above notice: _____ Date: _____