



2023 Patient Consents, Financial Agreement, and Responsibilities Form

Piedmont Nephrology and Internal Medicine Doing Business As Piedmont Kidney Institute is committed to providing patients with information regarding their coverage and financial responsibilities. In consideration of services provided by Piedmont Nephrology and Internal Medicine (PNIM), the Patient or undersigned representative acting on behalf of the Patient agrees to the following:

1. **Treatment Authorization** - I do hereby give the providers at PNIM consent for medical treatment and

2. **Non-Medicare Patient Responsibility for Payment**

In return for **Medical Treatment/Services** rendered to the Patient, Patient understands and unconditionally agrees to the following:

- Patient agrees to pay all co-payments, deductibles, or co-insurances.
- Patient understands and agrees that he/she will be charged the PNIM standard charge master rates for all services not covered by a Payor or that are self-pay.
- Patient specifically agrees to pay for any services, which are determined not to be covered by any health benefit plan or insurance company.
- Patient is aware that he/she is not relieved of liability by any extension of time granted for the payment of these charges, not by the acceptance by the PNIM of a note of the patient or any third person.
- If PNIM requires legal assistance to collect an account, Patient agrees to pay the cost incurred for such collections.

3. **Assignment of Insurance or Health Plan Benefits**

Patient acknowledges the assignment and authorization for direct payment to PNIM for all insurance and health plan benefits and settlements whether hospital, medical or liability insurance including but not limited to, the proceeds of any settlement or judgment of any third-party claim as payment for all services performed at a PNIM entity. Patient agrees that the insurance company's or health plan's payment to PNIM pursuant to this authorization shall discharge the insurance company's or health plan's obligations to the extent of such payment.

4. **Filing of Third-Party Claims**

Patient acknowledges that upon proof of coverage PMIM will submit a claim for payment of insurance benefits and accept payments from third party payors ("Payors") to be credited to Patient's account as they are received. Patient agrees that the filing of insurance claims is performed as a service and in no way relieves Patient of the obligation to pay in full.

Additionally, the Patient acknowledges the following:

- Patient is responsible to follow up with any insurance company or employer within 30 days to see that Patient's bill is paid promptly.
- Patient understands that he/she is financially responsible for charges not paid according to this agreement. If Patient overpays the amount owed on his/her account, Patient assigns credit to be applied to any other existing unpaid accounts ("Other Accounts") for which the Patient or the insured or guarantor is also responsible. Any money remaining after the Patient's account and Other Accounts have been paid in full will be refunded to the patient or guarantor.
- Insurance companies will often deny claims when the insurance is not presented at the time of service. Please contact our Billing Department with your Insurance/Payor information at 1-404-355-7375. Otherwise, your account may be considered self-pay/uninsured and you will be responsible for the total bill.

5. Assignment of Medicare Benefits

Patient certifies that the information given in applying for payment under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act is correct. Patient requests that the payment of authorized benefits be made on Patient's behalf to the provider of Medical Treatment/Services. Patient assigns the benefits payable for Medical Treatment/Services rendered by PNIM and all Healthcare Professionals rendering care and/or treatment to patient and authorizes PNIM and Healthcare Professionals to submit claims to Medicare for payment. Patient authorizes any holder of medical or other information to release to Medicare and its agents any information needed to determine these benefits or benefits for related services. Patient understands he/she is responsible for any deductibles, co-payments and/or non-covered services as defined by Medicare to be paid in accordance with all terms and conditions specified herein.

6. Assignment of Medicaid Benefits

Patient certifies that the information given in applying for payment under Title XIX of the Social Security Act is correct. Patient authorizes any holder of medical or other information to release to the Social Security Administration or its intermediaries or carriers all information needed for this or related Medicaid claims. Patient requests payment of authorized benefits be made on Patient's behalf to the provider of Medical Treatment/Services. Patient assigns the benefits payable for Medical Treatment/Services rendered by PNIM and all Healthcare Professionals rendering care and/or treatment to patient and authorizes PNIM and Healthcare Professionals to submit claims to Medicaid for payment.

7. Authorization to Release Information

PNIM is authorized to use and release information contained in the patient record as described in the PNIM Notice of Privacy Practices and as otherwise permitted or required by law. The information authorized to be used or released will include, but is not limited to, infectious or contagious disease information, including HIV or AIDS-related evaluations, diagnosis or treatment, information about drug or alcohol abuse or treatment of same and/or psychiatric or psychological information. Patient waives any privilege pertaining to such confidential information and hereby releases PNIM, its agents and employees from all liabilities, responsibilities, damages, claims and expenses arising from the use and release of information as authorized above. Permissible uses and disclosures include, but are not limited to, disclosures to insurance companies, their agents or other third party payors and/or government or social service agencies that may or will pay for any part of the medical/hospital expenses incurred or authorized by representatives of PNIM; alternate care providers, including community agencies and services, for post-hospital care, as ordered by Patient's physician or as requested by Patient or Patient's family or as otherwise permitted by law; or PNIM affiliates and contractors for PNIM operations purposes, such as quality improvement, compliance and risk assessment activities. **PATIENT ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT PATIENT'S RECORDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL PNIM AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND PROVIDERS, AND TO NON-PNIM AFFILIATED REFERRING PROVIDERS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF MEANINGFUL USE.** By consenting to treatment and accepting financial responsibility for any such treatment, Patient also understands and acknowledges that (a) PNIM, from time-to-time, may call and/or text the cell number Patient has provided or email treatment-related information to Patient, such as appointment confirmations and reminders, follow-up, prescription notifications, and (b) Patient's preferences to receive, change or stop these and other types of communications from PNIM may be done by logging into the Piedmont MyChart Patient Portal at any time.

8. Consent Timeframe and Applicability

The above agreements are applicable to all inpatient or outpatient hospital-based services and all ambulatory or physician office-based services and are valid for a term of one (1) year from the date of signature below.

Validity of Form

Patient acknowledges that a copy or an electronic version of this document may be used in place of and is as valid as the original. **The patient confirms that he/she has read and understood and accepted the terms of this document and he/she is the patient, the patient's legal representative or is duly authorized by the patient as the patient's general agent to execute the above and accept its terms.**

Patient/Patient Representative Signature Patient Name (**PRINT**) Date Time

Relationship to Patient Reason Patient is unable to sign

PNIM Healthcare Representative Signature PNIM Healthcare Representative Name (**PRINT**) Date Time