



**Piedmont Healthcare is committed to providing patients with information regarding their coverage and financial responsibilities. In consideration of services provided by Piedmont Healthcare (PHC), the Patient or undersigned representative acting on behalf of the Patient agrees to the following:**

**1. Emergency and Labor Services**

Patient understands his/her right to receive an appropriate medical screening exam performed by a doctor or other qualified medical professional to determine whether Patient is suffering from an emergency medical condition, and if such a condition exists, stabilizing treatment within the capabilities of the PHC staff and facilities, even if Patient cannot pay for these services, does not have medical insurance or Patient is not entitled to Medicare or Medicaid.

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

In return for **Medical Treatment/Services** rendered to the Patient or any infant(s) born 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 PHC standard charge master rates for all services not covered by a Payor or that are self-pay.
- Patient understands that he/she may qualify for financial assistance. For more information, the patient may contact a local financial counseling resource, call the PHC Customer Service Center (**1-855-788-1212**) or online at [www.piedmont.org](http://www.piedmont.org).
- 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 PHC of a note of the patient or any third person.
- If PHC requires legal assistance to collect an account, Patient agrees to pay the cost incurred for such collections.
- PHC may use data from third parties such as credit reporting agencies in order to verify demographic data or evaluate financial options and by this authorization expressly permit sources and employers to provide PHC with all information requested.

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

Patient acknowledges the assignment and authorization for direct payment to PHC 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 any and all services performed at a PHC entity. Patient agrees that the insurance company's or health plan's payment to PHC 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 PHC 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.
- Patient also understands that different Payors have different requirements for payment including, but not limited to, pre-certifications and authorizations or that the services be medically necessary. Patient understands that it is his/her obligation to know his/her Payor's requirements and ensure that they have been fulfilled, including having a valid authorization for service in place prior to Medical Treatment/Service. Failure to have a valid authorization will lead to the Patient and/or Guarantor being responsible for payment of the full charges.
- Insurance companies will often deny claims when the insurance is not presented at the time of service. Most insurance companies have requirements for authorization prior to or within 24 hours of service. If you present insurance information after treatment we will file a claim to your insurance company on your behalf. However, you will be held liable for the charges if the insurance denies the claim as untimely because of late presentation of coverage or for lack of timely authorization due to late presentation of coverage. This does not apply to government programs.



**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 PHC and all Healthcare Professionals rendering care and/or treatment to Patient and authorizes PHC 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 any and 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 PHC and all Healthcare Professionals rendering care and/or treatment to Patient and authorizes PHC and Healthcare Professionals to submit claims to Medicaid for payment.

**7. Authorization to Release Information**

PHC is authorized to release information contained in the patient record. The information authorized to be released shall 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. PHC, its agents and employees are hereby released from any and all liabilities, responsibilities, damages, claims and expenses arising from the release of information as authorized above. Reasons for releasing a Patient's record include, but are not limited to, insurance company(s), their agents or other third party payor and/or government or social service agencies which may or will pay for any part of the medical/hospital expenses incurred or authorized by representatives of PHC, as mandated by law, or to alternate care providers, including community agencies and services, as ordered by Patient's physician or as requested by Patient or Patient's family for post-hospital care. **PATIENT ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT PATIENT'S RECORDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL PHC AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND PROVIDERS, AND TO NON-PHC AFFILIATED REFERRING PROVIDERS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF MEANINGFUL USE.** Patient also agrees, in order for PHC to service accounts or to collect liabilities owed, to receive contact by telephone at any telephone number associated with their record, including wireless telephone numbers, which could result in charges to Patient. PHC or its agents may also contact Patient by sending text messages or emails, using any email address Patient provides. Methods of contact may include using pre-recorded/artificial voice messages and/or use of an automatic dialing device, as applicable.

**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. The same *agreement* applies to delivered infant(s) while a patient of PHC.

**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 ( <b>PRINT</b> )	Date	Time
Relationship to Patient	Reason Patient is unable to sign		
Piedmont Healthcare Representative Signature	Piedmont Healthcare Representative Name ( <b>PRINT</b> )	Date	Time

**Patient Financial Agreement and Responsibilities**

*Patient Label*