

## **Patient Rights Under HIPAA**

### **Access to Health Information**

*This information is to help you understand your rights under federal privacy regulations, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA. This page focuses on your right to request access to your health information. "Access" means that you may review, inspect, and obtain a copy of your health information.*

#### **You have the right to request access to your health information:**

- ✓ You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of medical or health information that may be used to make decisions about your care.
- ✓ Usually, this includes medical and billing records.

#### **To request access:**

- ✓ To inspect or obtain copies, you must sign an authorization form, allowing us to release this information to you.
- ✓ If you request copies of the information, we may charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing, or other supplies associated with your request.
- ✓ We may deny your request to inspect and obtain a copy in certain, very limited circumstances.
- ✓ If you are denied access to your health information, you may request that the denial be reviewed. Another licensed health care professional chosen by the Health Science Center will review your request and the denial. The person conducting the review will not be the person who denied your request. We will comply with the outcome of the review.

*To request to inspect or review your health records, or to request a copy of any part of your health records, please ask staff for an authorization form, or you may download a form from our website at <http://www.uthscsa.edu/hipaa/forms/patientauthorizationforreleaseofhealthrecords.pdf>.*