

GRACE PATIENT PRIVACY FAQS

Will any of my personal information be disclosed by the GRACE Program or anyone at Woman's Hospital?

No. Your private health information is protected by federal laws and regulations and cannot be shared without your permission.

Can I be arrested or punished for information I provide to my GRACE team about illegal drug use?

Woman's Hospital will not report drug use for patients enrolled and participating in the GRACE Program. Information regarding your health history and treatment also will not be given as evidence for criminal drug charges.

Why do I have to sign a consent form?

This allows your GRACE care team to share treatment records with your doctors and treatment facilities so you can receive the best and most coordinated level of care.

What is included in my "treatment records?"

This includes all substance use disorder records, hospital admissions, medication information, medical history information, physician orders, testing information, and any information collected during your participation in the GRACE Program.

Is there any information that is not protected?

Any crimes committed on the Woman's Hospital campus or against Woman's Hospital employees will be reported to law enforcement. Suspected child abuse or neglect will also be reported.

When does my consent expire?

Your consent expires on the date listed on your Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records form, or in one calendar year if no date is listed.

Can I change my mind?

Yes. Your consent is voluntary and can be changed at any time for information to be shared after consent is withdrawn in writing.

What do I do if I feel my privacy has been violated?

Violation of your privacy and sharing any substance use treatment records without your consent is a crime. You should contact the Office of Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana (777 Florida St., Suite 208, Baton Rouge, LA 70801) or the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857)

Who can I contact if I have questions about my privacy rights?

You can contact a representative from Woman's Health Information Management (HIM) at 225-924-8127 or visit the HIM office in the Support Services building of the hospital.