

Automated Medical Assistant (AMA)

HIPAA Agreement

Business Associates Agreement

1. Definitions

Terms used, but not otherwise defined, shall have the same meaning as those in 45 CFR 160, 162 and 164.

“Business Associate” means “Advanced Billing Solutions, Inc. (ABS)” as defined in this document.

“Covered Entity” means the company or other legal entity that accepts this Agreement.

“Individual” means the same meaning as the term “individual” in 45 CFR § 164.501 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.502(g).

“Privacy Rule” means the current Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E.

“Protected Health Information” has the same meaning as the term “protected health information” in 45 CFR § 164.501, limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity.

“Provider(s)” means any healthcare professional that provides billable services to patients whom is an employee, customer, or has an employment, contractor, or agent relationship with a customer, for which the Service organizes information and provides medical billing management.

“Required By Law” shall have the same meaning as the term “required by law” in 45 CFR § 164.501.

“Secretary” means the Secretary of the United States of America Department of Health and Human Services or his designee.

2. Obligations and Activities

The obligations and activities of the Business Associate, as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and in regulations promulgated thereunder, are as follows:

- i) Business Associate agrees to not use or disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by the Agreement or as Required By Law.
- ii) Business Associate agrees to use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information other than as provided for by this Agreement.
- iii) Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement.
- iv) Business Associate agrees to report to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information not provided for by this Agreement of which it becomes aware.
- v) Business Associate agrees to ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity agrees to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- vi) Business Associate agrees to provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, and in the time and manner of within sixty (60) days, to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set, to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR § 164.524.
- vii) Business Associate agrees to make any amendment(s) to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set that the Covered Entity directs or agrees to pursuant to 45 CFR § 164.526 at the request of Covered Entity or an Individual, and in the time and manner of within thirty (30) days.
- viii) Business Associate agrees to make internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures and Protected Health Information, relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity available to the Covered Entity, or to the Secretary, in a time and manner of within sixty (60) days or designated by the Secretary, for purposes of the Secretary determining Covered Entity's compliance with the Privacy Rule.
- ix) Business Associate agrees to document such disclosures of Protected Health Information and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528.

x) Business Associate agrees to provide to Covered Entity or an Individual, in time and manner of within sixty (60) days, information collected in accordance with Section 13 of this Agreement, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528.

3. Permitted Uses and Disclosures

The permitted uses and disclosures of the Business Associate, as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and in regulations promulgated thereunder, are as follows:

i) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use or disclose Protected Health Information to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in this Agreement, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule if done by Covered Entity or the minimum necessary policies and procedures of the Covered Entity.

ii) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate.

iii) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may disclose Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate, provided that disclosures are Required By Law, or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is disclosed that it will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as Required By Law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies the Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.

iv) Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information to provide Data Aggregation services to Covered Entity as permitted by 45 CFR § 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B). v) Business Associate may use Protected Health Information to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities, consistent with § 164.502(j)(1).

4. Obligations

The obligations of Covered Entity, as required by Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and in regulations promulgated thereunder, are as follow:

i) Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any limitation(s) in its notice of privacy practices of Covered Entity in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.520, to the extent that such limitation may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of Protected Health Information.

ii) Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any changes in, or revocation of, permission by Individual to use or disclose Protected Health Information, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of Protected Health Information.

iii) Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information that Covered Entity has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of Protected Health Information.

iv) Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose Protected Health Information in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule if done by Covered Entity.

5. Termination

i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary stated in this Agreement, upon termination of this Agreement, for any reason, Business Associate shall return or destroy all Protected Health Information received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity. This provision shall apply to Protected Health Information that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the Protected Health Information.

ii) In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity notification of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. Upon determination that return or destruction of Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Agreement to such Protected Health Information and limit further uses and disclosures of such Protected Health Information to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such Protected Health Information.

iii) The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under this Section 13 of this Agreement shall survive the termination of this Agreement for any reason.

6. Other

i) The parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement from time to time as is necessary for Covered Entity to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191.

ii) Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved to permit Covered Entity to comply with the Privacy Rule.