



Request to Release My Health Information to Wellport

Wellport is an electronic health information network that allows physicians and other health care clinicians more timely and reliable access to your health information. Wellport is designed to improve the safety, quality, and efficiency of the health care that you receive.

What's new? Currently, health information is shared among clinicians by telephone, fax, paper copies, email and by secure connections to hospitals' computers. While information may continue to be shared in this way, now information may also be shared electronically through Wellport. With your written request below, Wellport will compile a frequently updated listing of some of your health information – called a Shared Health Summary – to be shared with clinicians in our medical community who need it for your care. Your request to release a listing of your health information allows those who care for you to access that summary at any time.

Who can access my Shared Health Summary? Only people with an approved reason are permitted to see your Health Summary. This includes your physician and other clinicians, those who help them manage and deliver health services to you, and those whose responsibility it is to operate, secure, monitor and evaluate Wellport, or to assess the quality of care delivered. It also includes hospitals, labs, imaging centers, medical institutions, and others as required by law.

Potential benefits of participation:

- By having a Shared Health Summary available for your clinicians you are likely to save you time at medical visits and when a consultation is needed.
- In the event that you are seriously injured or unconscious and seen within our medical community, your Shared Health Summary – including, but not limited to, your medications, past history and allergies – will be readily available, helping to protect you against medications or treatments that may be harmful to you.
- Because the Shared Health Summary is updated frequently, the system should help reduce unnecessary duplication of diagnostic studies.
- Incorrect entries in your health record can be more easily corrected, and changes in your medical condition may be more easily transmitted across the medical community.
- Any participating clinician involved in your care will have a regularly updated summary of your current health information immediately available.
- You, the patient, will have secure online access to much of this information. Information about your Advance Directives will be available to any participating clinician who needs it.
- Measurement, monitoring and reporting by (and to) authorized representatives of the clinical community will help improve quality, efficiency, and public health.
- There may be other benefits.

Potential risks of participation:

- From your medication list and health history, it is possible to understand details about your mental health, all of your pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, alcohol or drug problems, chronic medical conditions, genetic disorders and HIV infection and other information that you may consider sensitive.

- Although this information is encrypted and access is audited and controlled, it is possible that someone (with whom you would not want to share information) may see something that makes you uncomfortable.
- Your record may have errors that are then shared with other members of the medical community.
- Though unlikely, unauthorized electronic access to a large database like this one may occur.
- There may be other risks.

Security and Safeguards: Wellport uses both physical and electronic barriers to help reduce the risk of unauthorized access. A careful record and audit will be kept of any person who accesses your information (which is not possible with paper records). Any person who accesses your medical information is required to have an appropriate reason to do so. Penalties are in place in the unlikely instance that information is accessed inappropriately or otherwise misused.

How to withdraw permission: You can withdraw permission for releasing information to create your Shared Health Summary, from a single medical practice or health facility by sending written notice to that practice or facility. You can withdraw permission for all practices at once by notifying Wellport. Such notice will become effective within three business days after the request is received and acknowledged. Information already imported into a particular clinician’s records cannot be removed. For record keeping purposes, the last Shared Health Summary will be retained, but is no longer viewable electronically by clinicians participating in Wellport. (Contact your physician’s office or www.wellport.org to obtain the “Request to Prevent Sharing of Health Information” form.)

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION:

I request _____ to release some of my health information to Wellport, to create my Shared Health Summary.

I have read this request form and have been given an opportunity to read a Wellport brochure. I understand the risks and benefits of having my information in Wellport. I know that Wellport does not replace speaking or meeting with my physician or other healthcare clinicians.

YES []

NO []

Signature of Patient or Patient Representative

Print Patient Name

Patient DOB _____

Patient Representative Relationship to Patient

Date