New York State Privacy Notice

What is this notice?
At Healthfirst, Inc. (made up of Healthfirst PHSP, Inc., Healthfirst Health Plan, Inc., Senior Health Partners, Inc., and Healthfirst Insurance Company, Inc.), we appreciate the trust our members place in us, and we recognize the importance and sensitivity of protecting the confidentiality of the non-public personal information that we collect about them. We collect nonpublic personal information from our members to effectively administer our health plans and to provide healthcare benefits to members of our healthplans. Protecting this information is our top priority, and we are pleased to share our Privacy Policy with you.

What is Nonpublic Personal Information?
Nonpublic personal information (“NPI”) is information that identifies an individual enrolled in a Healthfirst health plan (e.g., Child Health Plus, Healthfirst Medicare Plan, and Healthfirst Insurance Company, Inc.) and relates to: an individual’s enrollment in the plan; an individual’s participation in the plan; an individual’s physical or mental / behavioral health condition; the provision of healthcare to that individual; or payment for the provision of healthcare rendered to that individual. NPI does not include publicly available information, or information that is reported or available in an aggregate form, without any personal identifiers.

What types of NPI does Healthfirst collect?
Like all other healthcare plans, we collect the following types of NPI about our members and their dependents in the normal course of business in order to provide healthcare services to you:

– Information we receive directly or indirectly from you or city/state governmental agencies through eligibility and enrollment applications and other forms such as: name, address, date of birth, social security number, marital status, dependent information, assets, and income tax returns.
– Information about your transactions with us, our affiliated healthcare providers or others, including, but not limited to, appeals and grievance information, claims for benefits, premium payment history medical records and coordination of benefits information. This also includes information regarding your medical benefit plan, your health benefits, and health risk assessments.
– Information about your activity on our website.

What NPI does Healthfirst use or disclose to third parties, and why?
We do not disclose NPI to anyone without your written authorization, except as permitted by law. If we were to do so in the future, we will notify you of such change in policy and advise you of your right to instruct us not to make such disclosure. At any time, you can tell us not to share any of your personal information with affiliated companies that provide offers other than our products or services. If you wish to exercise your opt-out option, or to revoke a previous opt-out request, you need to provide the following information to process your request: your name, date of birth, and your member identification number.
Healthfirst Privacy Notice (continued)

You can use any of the methods below to request or revoke your opt-out:

– Call us at 1-212-801-6299
– Email us at HIPAAPrivacy@healthfirst.org
– Send your opt-out request to us in writing:

Healthfirst Privacy Office
P.O. Box 5183
New York, NY 10274-5183

How does Healthfirst treat NPI that relates to your personal health information?
Healthfirst will not disclose any of your nonpublic health information without your written authorization, except as otherwise permitted by law. Nonpublic health information is individually identifiable information that we maintain relating to the provision of your healthcare or payment of your healthcare, including your medical records and claims payment information.

Under the law, Healthfirst is permitted to disclose nonpublic health information in order to administer your healthcare benefits, including: authorizing requests for healthcare services, payment of claims for services, ensuring quality improvement and assurance practices, resolving appeals or grievance inquiries, and any disclosure required to applicable governmental agencies.

If at any time in the future Healthfirst seeks to disclose your nonpublic health information in any manner not permitted under the law, we will send you a special consent form to complete and sign before we disclose your information.

What are Healthfirst’s Confidentiality and Security Policies for NPI?
We restrict access to NPI about you to those Healthfirst employees who need to know that information in order to provide services to you. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal and state regulations to guard your NPI. Employees who violate our confidentiality or security policies are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

Regulation 169 Privacy Notice [2007]