

North Shore Spinal and Sports Rehabilitation Financial Agreement

We, the staff at North Shore Spinal and Sports Rehab thank you for choosing us as your healthcare provider. We consider it a privilege to serve your needs and we look forward to doing so. We are committed to providing you with the highest level of care and to building a successful provider-patient relationship with you and your family.

We believe your understanding of your financial responsibility is vital to that provider-patient relationship and our goal is to not only inform you of the provisional aspects of that financial policy but also to keep the lines of communication open regarding them. If at any time you have any questions or concerns regarding our fees, policies or responsibilities please feel free to contact our office manager at (847) 295-0920. We believe this level of communication and cooperation will allow us to provide quality service to all of our valued patients.

Please understand that payment for services is an important part of the provider-patient relationship. If you do not have insurance, proof of insurance or participate in a plan that will not honor an assignment of insurance benefits, payment for services will be due at the time of service unless a payment arrangements has been approved in advance by our staff.

We make payment as convenient as possible by accepting (cash, money order, MasterCard, Visa, Discover and checks). A \$25.00 service fee will be charge for all returned checks. Additionally, you may authorize us to keep your credit card on file for your convenience knowing that we adhere to the highest level of information security.

Insurance

Please remember that your insurance policy is a contract between you and your insurance carrier. We will, as a courtesy, bill your insurance and help you receive the maximum allowable benefit under your policy. We have found that patients who are involved with their claims process are more successful at receiving prompt and accurate payment services from their insurance carrier on any open claims.

It is your responsibility to provide all necessary insurance eligibility, identification, authorization and referral information and to notify our office of any information changes when they occur. Even a pre-authorization of services does not guarantee payment from your insurance carrier. We also require photo identification when accepting insurance information.

It is the patient's responsibility to know if our office is participating or non-participation with their insurance plan. Failure to provide all required information may necessitate patient payment for all charges. When insurance is involved, we are contractually obligated to collect co-payments, co-insurance and deductibles, as outlined by your insurance carrier.

Please be aware that out-of-network insurance carriers often prohibit assignment of benefit and may try to limit their financial liability with arbitrary limits, exclusions or reductions such as reasonable and customary or usual and prevailing reductions. Our fees are well within such ranges and although we will assist in the filing of an appeal if these limitations are imposed, you as the guarantor are responsible for all out-of-network fees. If we are not contracted with your carrier we will not negotiate reduced fees with your carrier.

Miscellaneous Forms, Additional Information and Authorizations

We will provide all necessary information to have your benefits released. However, if it becomes necessary to submit redundant or unnecessary information for the completion of claim forms for school, sports or extra-curricular activities there will be an administrative fee, of \$35.00, for the additional information.

Missed Appointments

We require notice of cancellations 24 hours in advance. This allows us to offer the appointment to another patient. If you fail to keep your appointment without notifying us in advance: a missed appointment fee will apply. The fee is \$50.00 for missed or those appointments cancelled less than 24 hours in advance. Repeated missed appointments without notification may cause you to be discharged from the practice so that we can provide care to other patients.

Medical Records Fees

Patients are entitled under federal law to have access to their protected health information and we follow all rules, guidelines and exceptions to ensure compliance to patient rights. However, providers also have the right to compensation for records and our fees are a reasonable cost-based fee for copies including the copying, supplies, labor and postage of the files an or summaries.

Financial Hardship

We realize that financial problems may affect timely payment of your account, If this should occur, please contact us for assistance in the management of your account. Our goal is to provide quality care and service. Please let us know immediately if you require any assistance or clarification from anyone within our business.

Authorization to file and appeal/compliant

I authorize the provider to initiate a complaint or file appeal to the insurance commissioner or any payer authority for any reason on my behalf and I personally will be active in the resolution of claims delay or unjustified reductions or denials. I am also assigning North Shore Spinal and Sports Rehabilitation the rights to any penalties that may incur as the result of my insurance carrier not complying with federal or state regulations.

I have read and understand the above financial policy. I agree to assign insurance benefits to North Shore Spinal and Sports Rehabilitation whenever applicable. I also agree, in addition to the amount owed, I also will be responsible for any fess or costs of collections, if such action becomes necessary.

Signature of Insured: _____ **Date:** _____