HEALTH CARE PROVIDER-PATIENT ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

Article 1: Agreement to Arbitrate: It is understood that any dispute as to medical malpractice, that is as to whether any medical services rendered under this contract were unnecessary or unauthorized or were improperly, negligently or incompetently rendered, will be determined by submission to arbitration as provided by California law, and not by a lawsuit or suit to court process except as California law provides for judicial review of arbitration proceedings. Both parties to this contract, by entering into it, are giving up their constitutional right to have any such dispute decided in a court of law before jury, and instead are accepting the use of arbitration.

Article 2: All Claims Must be Arbitrated: It is the intention of the parties to this agreement bind all parties whose claims may arise out of or relate to treatment or services provided by the health care provider including any heirs or past, absent or future spouse(s) of the patient in relation to all claims, including loss of consortium. This agreement is also to bind any children of the patient whether born or unborn at the time of the occurrence giving rise to any claim. This agreement is intended to bind the patient and the health care provider and/or other licensed health care providers or acceptance interns who now or in the future treat the patient while employed by, working or associated with or serving as co-working at the health care provider, including those working at the health care provider’s clinic or office or any other clinic or office, whether signatories to this form or not. All claims for monetary damages exceeding the jurisdictional limit of the small claims court against the health care provider, and/or the health care provider’s associates, association, corporation, partnership, employees, agents and estate, must be arbitrated including, without limitation, claims for loss of consortium, wrongful death, emotional distress or punitive damages. Filing of any action in any court by the health care provider to collect any fee from the tenant shall not waive the right to compel arbitration of any malpractice claim. However, following the assertion of any claim against the health care provider, any fee dispute, whether or not the subject of any existing court action, shall also be resolved by arbitration.

Article 3: Procedures and Applicable Law: A demand for arbitration must be communicated in writing to all parties. Each party shall select an arbitrator (party arbitrator) within thirty days and a third arbitrator (neutral arbitrator) shall be selected by the arbitrators appointed by the parties within thirty days thereafter. The neutral arbitrator shall then be the sole arbitrator and shall decide the arbitration. Each party to the arbitration shall pay such party’s pro rata share of the expenses of the neutral arbitrator together with other expenses of the arbitration incurred or approved by the neutral arbitrator, including counsel fees, witness fees or other expenses incurred by a party for such party’s own benefit.

Either party shall have the absolute right to bifurcate the issues of liability and damage upon written request to the neutral arbitrator. The parties consent to the intervention and joinder in this arbitration of any person or entity that would otherwise be a proper additional party in a court action, and upon such intervention and joinder any existing court action against such additional person or entity shall be stayed pending arbitration.

The parties agree that the provisions of the California Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act shall apply to disputes in this Arbitration Agreement, including, but not limited to, sections establishing the right to introduce evidence of any prepayment as a benefit to the patient as allowed by law (Civil Code 3333.1), the limitation on recovery for non-economic loss (Civil Code 3333.2) and the right to have a judgement for future damages confirmed to periodic payments (CCP 7). The parties further agree that the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association shall govern arbitration conducted pursuant to this Arbitration Agreement.

Article 4: General Provisions: All claims based upon the same incident, transaction or related circumstances shall be tried in one proceeding. A claim shall be waived and forever barred if (1) the on the notice thereof is received, the claim asserted in civil action, would be barred by the applicable California statute of limitations, or (2) the claimant fails to serve the arbitration claim in accordance with the procedures prescribed herein with reasonable diligence.

Article 5: Revocation: This agreement may be revoked by written notice delivered to the health care provider within 30 days of signature and if not revoked will govern all professional services received by the patient.

Article 6: Retroactive Effect: If patient intends this agreement to cover services rendered before the date it is signed for any emergency treatment patient should initial below.

Effective as of the date of first professional services.

[Signature]
Patient's Initials

[Signature]
Provider's Name

[Signature of Patient or Patient's Agent, Representative, or Parent]
...(Date)

...ed by...
...(Date)

Relationship to Patient

1 original, WHITE copy to be filed in Patient's file.
2 YELLOW copy to be kept in a separate Malpractice Arbitration Agreements file containing yellow copies only.
3 PHD copy is to be given to the patient.