



Electronic Medical Record Sharing “Opt-Out” Notice

Winneshiek Medical Center (WMC) has a long-standing reputation for advancing rural health care. As of September 16, 2017, WMC has linked into a shared electronic medical record with the University of Iowa and other Critical Access Hospitals and Clinics, offering our patients state-of-the-art, seamless care between the facilities. This includes sharing of registration and scheduling information.

Benefits in participating include:

- Improved coordination of care with increased availability of health records
- Safer administration of medications due to better access to health history
- Reduction in duplicate medical tests and procedures
- More efficient and shorter registration times

At the same time, we know that a few of our patients may not want to participate. Our arrangement is designed to give individuals the choice to limit their participation by “opting-out.” A shared registration system improves efficiencies and helps control costs. Your name, address, date of birth, gender, and your opt-out status will be displayed to a limited subset of specially trained users as necessary to ensure accurate registration. Sharing this demographic data affords greater protection over your clinical medical record, which you can choose to “opt-out” of sharing.

If you opt-out, your care team members at other locations will not be able to access your clinical information from Winneshiek Medical Center. Nor is Winneshiek Medical Center able to view clinical data from other locations who are participating in your shared medical record.

If you wish to opt out, you must notify the WMC Privacy Officer in writing at the following address:

Winneshiek Medical Center
Privacy Officer
901 Montgomery Street
Decorah, IA 52101

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Health Information Management at 563-387-3100.