Website Privacy Policy

Effective Date: November 1, 2014

The Peterson Center on Healthcare (the “Center”) is strongly committed to protecting the privacy of our website visitors and people who communicate with us. This Privacy Policy seeks to help you understand (i) how we collect and use your information; (ii) how we share and protect your information; (iii) your choices regarding our use of such information; and (iv) your ability to access and correct your information.

This Privacy Policy applies when you visit this website or share your personally identifiable information with us, as discussed below. By using this website, you accept this Privacy Policy, which may be updated by us at any time. If you do not agree to this Privacy Policy for any reason, please do not use this website or share your personally identifiable information with us as discussed below. Please note that this Privacy Policy applies only to the website of the Center, and not to any other website linked to ours. We do not control the privacy policies or practices of others. We encourage you to ask questions and read the privacy policies of other websites before you disclose any personal information to them.

If you have any questions or comments about this Privacy Policy, you can e-mail us at privacy@petersonhealthcare.org[1] or write to us at Privacy, Peterson Center on Healthcare, 888-C Eighth Avenue, Box #144, New York, NY 10019.

How We Collect and Use Your Information

General

We collect personally identifiable information and non-personally identifiable information from you in a number of ways. “Personally identifiable information” is information that personally identifies you, such as your name, telephone number, postal address and e-mail address (or other information that is associated by us with such above information), and non-personally identifiable information is information that does not personally identify you, including anonymous information and aggregate data.

We use this information to understand better how visitors use our website, research our visitors’ demographics, interests, and behavior, provide visitors with customized services and information, improve our promotional and outreach efforts, and for other similar purposes. In addition, we may also use your personally identifiable information to contact you, through e-mail, postal mail, text messaging, and other means, and send you information regarding the Center and our partners, and the issues as to which we aim to increase public awareness.

You may choose to opt-out of receiving information from us at any point.

Website Visits

We and our authorized designees collect information through the servers for this website, cookies and other technologies. In general, we automatically gather certain information about our website visitors. This information includes the number and frequency of your visits, the URL of the last and next website you visit, your browser and operating system, your IP address, how long you spend on our website and what pages you view here.

We use cookies to enhance the efficiency of user interaction with the website, gain insight into and customize our visitors’ use of our website, and help maintain our website’s proper operation. “Cookies” are small files placed on the hard drive of your computer; each website can send its own cookie to your browser if your browser preferences allow it. You can configure your browser to accept all cookies, reject all cookies, or notify you when a cookie is set. (Each browser is different, so check the “Help” menu of your browser to learn how to change your cookie preferences.) You are always free to decline our cookies if your browser permits, although that may prevent you from using certain features on our website, and may result in your needing to re-enter your account user name and password frequently when you are participating in the Center’s Blog. In addition, a number of companies offer utilities designed to help you visit websites anonymously.

We use cookies to track usage on our website. We use “session cookies” to help us “remember” you until the session times
out, or the closing of your browser, which helps ensure that, if you are participating in the Center's Blog, you remain logged into your account. Session cookies are automatically deleted from your hard drive after the end of a session. We may also use a "persistent cookie" which "remembers" you every time you come back to our website, but only if you choose this option. The information collected through cookies and other technologies is not personally identifiable in and of itself.

We use Google Analytics, a service that uses cookies and tracking code to analyze how visitors use our website. The information collected (including your browser and operating system, IP address, pages visited on our website and time spent here) is transmitted to and stored by Google. Google uses this information to evaluate visitors' use of this website in an aggregate manner, compile reports on website activity and provide other related services. Google may transfer this information to third parties that process information on its behalf or as required by law. You can read Google's privacy policy at http://www.google.com/intl/en/privacy.html.

We will not allow other third parties to place any cookies, web beacons or other similar devices on our website. We do not control such devices that may be placed on our website by third parties. We are not responsible for any other websites accessible from or linked to this website, including their privacy policies or information collection practices.

Other Collection Methods

We also collect personally identifiable information from you as follows:

**E-mail Newsletter and Updates:** If you sign up on this website to receive our e-mail newsletter and updates, we will collect, store and use your e-mail address to send you such information from the Center. We will also collect and store your name, as well as other personally identifiable information you may opt to provide to us, such as your postal address and telephone number. If you provide us with your mobile phone number, we will use it to send you text messages from the Center.

**Text messages:** If you sign up to receive text messages from us, we will collect, store and use your mobile phone number to send you such messages from the Center. We will also collect and store your name, as well as other personally identifiable information you may opt to provide to us, such as your e-mail and postal address. If you provide us with your e-mail address, we will use it to send you e-mail newsletters and updates from the Center.

**User Accounts:** If you sign up for a user account, to participate on our Blog or in other features we offer, we will collect and store certain personally identifiable information about you, including your name and e-mail address, and any other information you choose to provide to us. Your user account information will be visible to designated staff members of the Center and our third-party website-services vendor, but not to other registered users or website visitors (except to the extent you voluntarily provide any such information when you post your comments). When you register for a user account, you will also be registered to receive e-mail updates, e-mail newsletters and text messages from the Center.

**User Comments and Content:** Please be aware that any personal information you provide in connection with comments you contribute to the Center Blog, videos you upload to our website, or other interactive features we may offer will be visible to other users and website visitors.

**User Letters and Articles:** If you use any of the interactive forms we offer to draft articles or letters to officials, editors, or other recipients, we will collect and store your name, e-mail address, postal address, and any other personally identifiable information you may opt to provide. We will use this information to help you draft your article or letter, and to send you e-mail updates, e-mail newsletters and text messages from the Center.

**Grants:** If you wish to submit an initial inquiry form to submit an unsolicited grant concept to the Center, you may choose to provide us with information that could be personally identifiable. Any personally identifiable information you provide to us in this regard will be viewed by the Center only for the purpose of evaluating your application and/or responding to your grant-related inquiry.

**Job Opportunities:** You may choose to apply for employment or an internship position with the Center through online application forms we may provide or by sending us, by e-mail or otherwise, a resume and letter (containing personally identifiable information). Any information you provide to us in this regard will be viewed by the Center only for the purpose of evaluating your application and/or responding to your employment-related inquiry.

**Other Communications:** You may choose to contact the Center by e-mail or otherwise, with other inquiries or to provide comments. Any personally identifiable information you provide in connection with such inquiries or comments will be collected and used by the Center for the purpose of processing and responding to your inquiries or comments.

How We Share Your Information

We may share non-personally identifiable information we collect for a variety of purposes. For instance, we may disclose aggregate, non-personally identifiable information about our website visitors and registered users to organizations or individuals that have provided us with funding or with which we have other relationships, for informational purposes.
We may use the services of other companies and individuals to facilitate our services and perform functions on our behalf, such as providing technical and hosting functions for our websites, managing our databases, sending postal mail, e-mail, and text messages, analyzing data, and providing customer service. These companies and individuals may have access to and use your personally identifiable information we collect as needed to perform their functions, but will not otherwise disclose such information to other third parties, except as may be required by law. You can read the privacy policy of our website services provider, Grassroots Enterprise, Inc., at [http://www.grassroots.com/privacy/](http://www.grassroots.com/privacy/).

If the Center merges with or transfers substantially all of its assets to another entity, the Center has the right to share your personally identifiable information with that entity. You will receive notice of such event, and we will request that the new entity follow the practices disclosed in this Privacy Policy or notify you of any changes to it.

We will not otherwise share your personally identifiable information, except as required by law, requested by governmental entity or law enforcement authority, subpoena, court order or discovery request, or when we otherwise believe in good faith that such disclosure is necessary or appropriate in connection with any activity that violates the law (including relating to intellectual property, fraud, contracts and privacy) or may expose us to liability. We can (and you authorize us to) disclose any of your information in such circumstances.

**How We Protect Your Information**

The security of your information is important to us. We employ several different technical, administrative and physical security measures to protect your personally identifiable information from unauthorized access or use. You can also read the statements regarding security in the privacy policy of our website services provider, Grassroots Enterprise, Inc., at [http://www.grassroots.com/privacy/](http://www.grassroots.com/privacy/).

You should be aware, however, that "perfect security" does not exist on the Internet, and there is always the risk that unauthorized persons may access or use your personally identifiable information. You use our website and send us such information at your own risk.

**Accessing, Correcting and Making Choices About Your Information**

We wish to maintain your information accurately, and to allow you to make choices about how we use it.

If you have created a user account with us, you may access and update your information, and indicate whether you wish to opt out of receiving certain communications from us, via the account settings page at [create and insert link to account settings page with opt-out boxes for e-mail communications (such as newsletters and updates) and text messages, "other than responses to your specific requests or communications pertaining to your user account or your use of our services"].

You can also e-mail us at [privacy@petersonhealthcare.org](mailto:privacy@petersonhealthcare.org) or write to us at Privacy, Peterson Center on Healthcare, 888-C Eighth Avenue, Box #144, New York, NY 10019, to notify us of any errors or changes, or to indicate whether you wish to opt out of receiving certain communications from us (such as our e-mail newsletters and updates or text messages).

Please be advised that such opt-outs will not apply to our use of your personally identifiable information for other purposes, such as responding to your subsequent requests for information or services and communicating with you about your user account.

If you have any other questions about this Privacy Policy, please contact us at the email or address listed above.

**Our Policy Towards Children**

We are concerned about the safety and privacy of children who use the Internet. Our website is not designed for or directed to children under the age of 13. Consistent with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 ("COPPA"), we will never knowingly request personally identifiable information from anyone under 13 without prior verifiable parental consent. If we become aware that a child under 13 has somehow provided us with personally identifiable information without verifiable parental consent, we will use our best efforts to remove such information from our files. If you believe that your child has provided us with such information without your consent, please e-mail us at [privacy@petersonhealthcare.org](mailto:privacy@petersonhealthcare.org) or write to us at Privacy, Peterson Center on Healthcare, 888-C Eighth Avenue, Box #144, New York, NY 10019, or call us at (212) 542-9200.

**Privacy Policy Changes**

We may revise or supplement this policy from time to time. If we make any substantial changes to this Privacy Policy, we will notify you by posting a prominent announcement on our website and/or sending you an e-mail if you have provided us with your e-mail address.
International Use

We make no claim that our website is appropriate or lawful for use or access outside the United States. Furthermore, our databases are located in the United States. If you access this website from outside the United States, you do so at your own risk. You are solely responsible for complying with all local laws, rules and regulations regarding online conduct and website access. By sending us your data, you consent to its transfer to and storage within the United States.

Governing Law/Forum

This Privacy Policy is governed by New York law. If we have a dispute regarding this policy or your use of this website, you agree that it shall be resolved solely in the state or federal courts located in the borough of Manhattan, New York City.

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