



901 Montgomery Street, Decorah, IA 52101 www.winmedical.org

Electronic Medical Record Sharing “Opt-Out” Notice

Winneshiek Medical Center (WMC) has a long-standing reputation for advancing rural health care. Beginning September 16, 2017 we 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 facilities. This includes sharing of registration and scheduling information.

There are many benefits to participation which 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 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 medical record, which you can choose to “opt-out” of sharing.

If you opt-out, your care team members at other facilities 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 facilities that participate in the 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 563-382-2911.