

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

This Business Associate Agreement (“BAA”) effective January 1, 2020 (“Effective Date”), is entered into by and among between the County of Monterey, a political subdivision of the State of California, on behalf of Natividad Medical Center (“Covered Entity”) and Press Ganey Associates, Inc. (“Business Associate”) (each a “Party” and collectively the “Parties”).

RECITALS

A. WHEREAS, Business Associate and Covered Entity have entered into one or more agreements (the “Services Agreement”) pursuant to which Business Associate provides certain Services for Covered Entity that involve the Use and Disclosure of Protected Health Information (“PHI”) that is created, received, transmitted, or maintained by Business Associate for or on behalf of Covered Entity.

B. WHEREAS, The Parties are committed to complying with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”), as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (the “HITECH Act”), and their implementing regulations, including the Standards for the Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E (the “Privacy Rule”), the Breach Notification Standards, 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and 164 subparts A and D (the “Breach Notification Rule”), and the Security Standards, 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subpart C (the “Security Rule”), (collectively “HIPAA”), all as amended from time to time.

C. WHEREAS, The Parties are also committed to complying with the California Confidentiality Laws (defined below).

D. WHEREAS, The Privacy and Security Rules require Covered Entity and Business Associate to enter into a business associate agreement that meets certain requirements with respect to the Use and Disclosure of PHI. This BAA, sets forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which PHI, and, when applicable, Electronic Protected Health Information (“EPHI”) shall be handled, in accordance with such requirement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises below and the exchange of information pursuant to this BAA, the Parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 All capitalized terms used in this BAA but not otherwise defined shall have the meaning set forth in the Privacy Rule, the Breach Notification Rule, or the Security Rule.

(a) “Breach” shall have the same meaning as “breach” as defined in 45 C.F.R. § 164.402 and shall mean the access, acquisition, Use, or Disclosure of PHI in a

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manner not permitted under the Privacy Rule that compromises the privacy or security of the PHI; the term “Breach” as used in this BAA shall also mean the unlawful or unauthorized access to, Use or Disclosure of a patient’s “medical information” as defined under Cal. Civil Code § 56.05(j), for which notification is required pursuant to Cal. Health & Safety Code 1280.15, or a “breach of the security of the system” under Cal. Civil Code §1798.29, each to the extent applicable to Business Associate and the information in Business Associate’s possession.

(b) “California Confidentiality Laws” shall mean the laws of the State of California applicable to Business Associate governing the confidentiality of PHI, including, but not limited to, the California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Cal. Civil Code §56, et seq.), the patient access law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §123100 et seq.), the HIV test result confidentiality law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §120975, et seq.), the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act (Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code §5328, et seq.), and the medical identity theft law (Cal. Civil Code 1798.29).

(c) “Protected Health Information” or “PHI” shall have the meaning in the HIPAA Rules, 45 C.F.R. § 160.103, limited to the information Business Associate receives from, or creates, receives, maintains or transmits for or on behalf of, Covered Entity. **PHI includes EPHI.**

(d) “Services” shall mean the services for or functions on behalf of Covered Entity performed by Business Associate pursuant to a the Services Agreement.

2. PERMITTED USES AND DISCLOSURES OF PHI

Unless otherwise limited herein, Business Associate may:

(a) Use or Disclose PHI to perform Services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity, provided that such Use or Disclosure would not violate the Privacy or Security Rules, this BAA, or California Confidentiality Laws;

(b) Use or Disclose PHI for the purposes authorized by this BAA or as otherwise Required by Law;

(c) Use PHI to provide Data Aggregation Services for the Health Care Operations of Covered Entity, if required by the Services Agreement and as permitted by 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B);

(d) Use PHI if necessary for the proper management and administration of Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of Business Associate as permitted by 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(4)(i);

(e) Disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of Business Associate as permitted under 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(4)(ii), provided that Disclosures are Required by Law, or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is Disclosed that it will remain confidential and be Used or further Disclosed

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only as Required by Law or for the purpose for which it was Disclosed to the person, and that such person will notify the Business Associate of any instances of which such person is aware that the confidentiality of the information has been breached;

(f) Use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and state authorities, consistent with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502(j)(1); and

(g) De-identify any PHI obtained by Business Associate under this BAA in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.514.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES WITH RESPECT TO PHI

3.1. Responsibilities of Business Associate. With regard to its Use and/or Disclosure of PHI, Business Associate shall:

(a) Notify the Privacy Officer of Covered Entity, in writing, of: (i) any Use and/or Disclosure of the PHI that is not permitted or required by this BAA; (ii) any Security Incident of which Business Associate becomes aware; and (iii) any suspected Breach. Such notice shall be provided within five (5) business days of Business Associate's discovery of such unauthorized access, acquisition, Use and/or Disclosure. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties acknowledge the ongoing existence and occurrence of attempted but ineffective Security Incidents that are trivial in nature, such as pings and other broadcast service attacks, and unsuccessful log-in attempts. The Parties acknowledge and agree that this Section 3.1(a) constitutes notice by Business Associate to Covered Entity of such ineffective Security Incidents and no additional notification to Covered Entity of such ineffective Security Incidents is required, provided that no such Security Incident results in a Breach. A ransomware attack shall not be considered an ineffective Security Incident and shall be reported to Covered Entity, irrespective of whether such Security Incident results in a Breach. Business Associate shall investigate each Security Incident or unauthorized access, acquisition, Use, or Disclosure of PHI, or suspected Breach that it discovers and shall provide a summary of its investigation to Covered Entity, upon request. If Business Associate or Covered Entity determines that such Security Incident or unauthorized access, acquisition, Use, or Disclosure, or suspected Breach constitutes a Breach, then Business Associate shall comply with the requirements of Section 3.1(a)(i) below;

(i) Business Associate shall provide a supplemental written report in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.410(c), which shall include, to the extent possible, the identification of each individual whose PHI has been, or is reasonably believed by the Business Associate to have been, accessed, acquired, Used or Disclosed during the Breach, to Covered Entity without unreasonable delay, but no later than five (5) business days after discovery of the Breach;

(ii) Covered Entity shall be responsible for, and have sole control over the timing and method of, providing notification of such Breach to the affected individual(s), the appropriate government agencies, and, if applicable, the media. Business

Associate shall reasonably assist with Covered Entity's efforts to notify individuals or potentially impacted individuals;

(b) In consultation with the Covered Entity, Business Associate shall mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to the Business Associate of such improper access, acquisition, Use, or Disclosure, Security Incident, or Breach. Business Associate shall take prompt corrective action, including any action required by applicable State or federal laws and regulations relating to such Security Incident or non-permitted access, acquisition, Use, or Disclosure. Business Associate shall, subject to any limitation(s) of liability in the Services Agreement, reimburse Covered Entity for its reasonable costs and expenses in providing any required notification to affected individuals, appropriate government agencies, and, if necessary the media, including, but not limited to, any administrative costs associated with providing notice, printing and mailing costs, for affected individuals whose PHI has or may have been compromised as a result of the Breach;

(c) Implement appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards and comply with the Security Rule to prevent Use and/or Disclosure of EPHI other than as provided for by this BAA;

(d) Obtain and maintain a written agreement with each of its Subcontractors that creates, maintains, receives, Uses, transmits or has access to PHI that requires such Subcontractors to adhere to substantially the same restrictions and conditions with respect to PHI that apply to Business Associate pursuant to this BAA;

(e) Make available all internal practices, records, books, agreements, policies and procedures and PHI relating to the Use and/or Disclosure of PHI received from, created, maintained, or transmitted by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services ("Secretary") in a time and manner designated by the Secretary for purposes of determining Covered Entity's or Business Associate's compliance with the Privacy Rule;

(f) Document Disclosures of PHI and information related to such Disclosure and, within thirty (30) days of receiving a written request from Covered Entity, provide to Covered Entity such information as is requested by Covered Entity to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of the Disclosures of the individual's PHI in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528. At a minimum, the Business Associate shall provide the Covered Entity with the following information: (i) the date of the Disclosure; (ii) the name of the entity or person who received the PHI, and if known, the address of such entity or person; (iii) a brief description of the PHI Disclosed; and (iv) a brief statement of the purpose of such Disclosure which includes an explanation of the basis for such Disclosure. In the event the request for an accounting is delivered directly to the Business Associate, the Business Associate shall, within ten (10) days, forward such request to the Covered Entity. The Business Associate shall implement an appropriate recordkeeping process to enable it to comply with the requirements of this Section;

(g) Intentionally Omitted;

(h) Disclose to its Subcontractors or other third parties, and request from Covered Entity, only the minimum PHI necessary to perform or fulfill a specific function required or permitted hereunder;

(i) If all or any portion of the PHI is maintained by Business Associate in a Designated Record Set:

(i) Upon fifteen (15) days' prior written request from Covered Entity, provide access to such PHI in a Designated Record Set to Covered Entity to meet a request by an individual under 45 C.F.R. § 164.524. Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity within ten (10) days of its receipt of a request for access to PHI from an Individual; and

(ii) Upon fifteen (15) days' prior written request from Covered Entity, make any amendment(s) to such PHI in a Designated Record Set that Covered Entity directs pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.526. Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity within ten (10) days of its receipt of a request for amendment of PHI from an Individual;

(j) Intentionally Omitted;

(k) To the extent that Business Associate carries out one or more of Covered Entity's obligations under the Privacy Rule, Business Associate shall comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule that apply to Covered Entity in the performance of such obligations;

(l) Unless prohibited by law, notify the Covered Entity within ten (10) business days of the Business Associate's receipt of any request or subpoena for PHI. To the extent that the Covered Entity decides to assume responsibility for challenging the validity of such request, the Business Associate shall reasonably cooperate with the Covered Entity in such challenge; and

3.2 Business Associate Acknowledgment.

(a) Business Associate further acknowledges that it is obligated by law to comply, and represents and warrants that it shall comply, with HIPAA and the HITECH Act. Business Associate shall comply with all California Confidentiality Laws, to the extent that such state laws are applicable to Business Associate and the information in its possession, and not preempted by HIPAA or the HITECH Act.

3.3 Responsibilities of Covered Entity. Covered Entity shall, with respect to Business Associate:

(a) Provide Business Associate a copy of Covered Entity's notice of privacy practices ("Notice") currently in use;

(b) Notify Business Associate of any changes to the Notice that Covered Entity provides to individuals pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.520, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate's Use or Disclosure of PHI;

(c) Notify Business Associate of any changes in, or withdrawal of, the consent or authorization of an individual regarding the Use or Disclosure of PHI provided to Covered Entity pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.506 or § 164.508, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate's Use or Disclosure of PHI; and

(d) Notify Business Associate of any restrictions on Use and/or Disclosure of PHI as provided for in 45 C.F.R. § 164.522 agreed to by Covered Entity, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's Use or Disclosure of PHI.

4. TERM AND TERMINATION

4.1 Term. This BAA shall become effective on the Effective Date and shall continue in effect unless terminated as provided in this Section 4. Certain provisions and requirements of this BAA shall survive its expiration or other termination as set forth in Section 5 herein.

4.2 Termination. If either Party determines in good faith that the other Party has breached a material term of this BAA, the non-breaching Party shall: (i) immediately terminate this BAA and any underlying Services Agreement if the violating Party has breached a material term of this BAA and cure is not possible; or (ii) provide written of such breach or violation and terminate this BAA and any underlying Services Agreement within thirty (30) days of the breaching Party's receipt of such written notice of such breach, if the breach is not cured to the satisfaction of the non-breaching Party.

4.3 Automatic Termination. This BAA shall automatically terminate without any further action of the Parties upon the termination or expiration of the Services Agreement.

4.4 Effect of Termination. Within sixty (60) days of termination or expiration of this BAA for any reason, Business Associate shall destroy all PHI pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(2)(ii)(J) if, and to the extent that, it is feasible to do so. Prior to destroying the PHI, Business Associate shall recover any PHI in the possession of its Subcontractors. To the extent it is not feasible for Business Associate to destroy any portion of the PHI, Business Associate shall provide Covered Entity with a statement that Business Associate has determined that it is infeasible to destroy all or some portion of the PHI in its possession or in possession of its Subcontractors. In such event, Business Associate shall: (i) retain only that PHI which is infeasible to destroy; (ii) destroy the remaining PHI that the Business Associate maintains in any form; (iii) continue to extend the protections of this BAA to the PHI for as long as Business Associate retains PHI; (iv) limit further Uses and Disclosures of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the PHI not feasible and subject to the same conditions as set out in Section 2 above, which applied prior to termination; and (v) destroy the PHI retained by Business Associate when it is no longer infeasible to do so.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

5.1 Survival. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate and Covered Entity under the provisions of Sections 2.1, 4.4, 5.7, 5.8, 5.11, and 5.12 shall survive termination of this BAA until such time as the PHI is returned to Covered Entity or destroyed.

5.2 Amendments; Waiver. This BAA may not be modified or amended, except in a writing duly signed by authorized representatives of the Parties. To the extent that any relevant provision of HIPAA, the HITECH Act, or California Confidentiality Laws is materially amended in a manner that changes the obligations of the Parties, the Parties agree to negotiate in good faith appropriate amendment(s) to this BAA to give effect to the revised obligations. Further, no provision of this BAA shall be waived, except in a writing duly signed by authorized representatives of the Parties. A waiver with respect to one event shall not be construed as continuing, or as a bar to or waiver of any right or remedy as to subsequent events.

5.3 No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing express or implied in this BAA is intended to confer, nor shall anything herein confer, upon any person other than the Parties and the respective successors or assigns of the Parties, any rights, remedies, obligations, or liabilities whatsoever.

5.4 Notices. Any notices to be given hereunder to a Party shall be made via U.S. Mail or express courier to such Party's address given below, and/or via facsimile to the facsimile telephone numbers listed below.

If to Business Associate, to:

Press Ganey Associates
404 Columbia Place
South Bend, IN 46601
Attn: Contracts
Fax: 574-245-3933

With a copy to:
HIPAA Privacy Officer at privacy@pressganey.com

If to Covered Entity, to:

Natividad Medical Center
Attn: Compliance/Privacy Officer
1441 Constitution Blvd.
Salinas, CA 93906
Phone: 831-755-4111
Fax: 831-755-6254

Each Party named above may change its address and that of its representative for notice by the giving of notice thereof in the manner hereinabove provided. Such notice is effective upon receipt of notice, but receipt is deemed to occur on next business day if notice is sent by FedEx or other overnight delivery service.

5.5 Counterparts; Facsimiles. This BAA may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original. Facsimile copies hereof shall be deemed to be originals.

5.6 Relationship of Parties. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Services Agreement, Business Associate is an independent contractor and not an agent of Covered Entity under this BAA. Business Associate has the sole right and obligation to supervise, manage, contract, direct, procure, perform, or cause to be performed all Business Associate obligations under this BAA.

5.8 Indemnification. Business Associate shall, subject to any limitation(s) of liability in the Services Agreement, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County of Monterey (the "County"), its officers, agents, and employees from any claim, liability, loss, injury, cost, expense, or damage, including costs incurred by the County with respect to any investigation, enforcement proceeding, or third party action, arising directly out of, a violation of this BAA or a Breach that is attributable to an act or omission of Business Associate and/or its agents, members, employees, or Subcontractors, excepting only loss, injury, cost, expense, penalty or damage caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of personnel employed by the County. This provision is in addition to, and independent of, any indemnification provision in any related or other agreement between the Parties.

5.9 Applicability of Terms. This BAA applies to all present and future Service Agreements and Business Associate relationships, written or unwritten, formal or informal, in which Business Associate creates, receives, transmits, or maintains any PHI for or on behalf of Covered Entity in any form whatsoever. This BAA shall automatically be incorporated in all subsequent agreements between Business Associate and Covered Entity involving the Use or Disclosure of PHI whether or not specifically referenced therein. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between a provision of this BAA and a provision of any other agreement between Business Associate and Covered Entity, relating to creation, receipt, maintenance or transmission of PHI, the provision of this BAA shall control unless the provision in such other agreement establishes additional rights for Business Associate or additional duties for or restrictions on Business Associate with respect to PHI, in which case the provision of such other agreement will control.

5.10 Insurance. In addition to any general and/or professional liability insurance required of Business Associate, Business Associate agrees to obtain and maintain, at its sole expense, liability insurance on an occurrence basis, covering any and all claims, liabilities, demands, damages, losses, costs and expenses arising from a breach of the obligations of Business Associate, its officers, employees, agents and Subcontractors under this BAA. Such insurance coverage will be maintained for the term of this BAA, and a copy of such policy or a certificate evidencing the policy shall be provided to Covered Entity at Covered Entity's request.

5.11. CMS Data. Certain Services involve PHI transmitted directly from The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”) to Business Associate. PHI transmitted from CMS to Business Associate shall be governed by an applicable Data Use Agreement (“DUA”) between Business Associate and CMS, as required by CMS. PHI transmitted by Covered Entity to Business Associate related specifically to those Certain Services described in the preceding sentence shall be subject to this BAA, however, in the event that any provision of this BAA conflicts with Business Associate’s obligations under its DUA with CMS or any other requirements imposed by CMS upon Business Associate as a CAHPS vendor, the terms and obligations of the DUA and CMS requirements as a CAHPS vendor shall supersede any requirement set forth therein.

5.11 Audit or Investigations. Business Associate shall promptly advise Covered Entity of any audit, complaint review, or complaint investigation by the Secretary or other state or federal agency related to (i) compliance with HIPAA, the HITECH Act, or the California Confidentiality Laws and (ii) Covered Entity’s PHI.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned has caused this BAA to be duly executed in its name and on its behalf as of the Effective Date.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

COVERED ENTITY

By: _____

By: _____

Print Name _____

Print Name: _____

Print Title _____

Print Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____