



Monterey County

168 West Alisal Street,
1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901
831.755.5066

Board Order

Agreement No.: A-12752

Upon motion of Supervisor Potter, seconded by Supervisor Armenta and carried by those members present, the Board of Supervisors hereby:

- a. Authorize the Deputy Purchasing Agent for Natividad Medical Center (NMC) or his designee to execute the First Amendment to the Professional and Call Coverage Services Agreement with Monterey Spine and Joint, PC, a California professional corporation to provide neurosurgery services at NMC effective October 1, 2015, extending the term by twenty-four months and adding \$500,000 for a revised not to exceed amount of \$1,750,000 for the full term of the Agreement October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2017; and
- b. Authorize the Deputy Purchasing Agent for NMC or his designee to sign up to three (3) amendments to this Agreement where the total amendments do not extend the term by more than twelve (12) months, do not exceed 10% of the original contract amount and do not significantly change the scope of work.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 29th day of September 2015, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Armenta, Phillips, Salinas, Parker and Potter

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 78 for the meeting on September 29, 2015.

Dated: September 30, 2015
File ID: A 15-320

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By Denise Hancock
Deputy

FIRST AMENDMENT TO PROFESSIONAL AND CALL COVERAGE SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO PROFESSIONAL AND CALL COVERAGE SERVICES AGREEMENT (the “**Amendment**”) is made and entered into as of October 1, 2015, by and between COUNTY OF MONTEREY (“**County**”) on behalf of NATIVIDAD MEDICAL CENTER (“**Hospital**”), and MONTEREY SPINE AND JOINT, PC, a California professional corporation (“**Contractor**”) with respect to the following:

RECITALS

A. County owns and operates Hospital, a general acute care teaching hospital facility located in Salinas, California and various outpatient clinics (collectively, the “**Clinics**”) under its acute care license.

B. Contractor and Hospital have entered into that certain Professional and Call Coverage Services Agreement dated effective as of October 1, 2014 (the “**Agreement**”) pursuant to which Contractor provides Specialty services to Clinic and Hospital Patients.

C. Hospital and Contractor desire to amend the Agreement to extend the term by twenty-four (24) months, add Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) to the aggregate amount payable and other contractual language related to insurance, billing, termination, and updates to the BAA, as set forth herein.

AGREEMENT

IN CONSIDERATION of the foregoing recitals and the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, Hospital and Contractor agree as follows:

1. **Defined Terms**. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Agreement.

2. **Section 2.1**. Section 2.1 to the Agreement is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

2.1 Compensation. Hospital shall pay to Contractor the amount determined in accordance with **Exhibit 2.1** (the “**Compensation**”), upon the terms and conditions set forth therein. The total amount payable by Hospital to Contractor under this Agreement shall not exceed the sum of One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,750,000) during the term of this Agreement.”

3. **Exhibit 2.1**. **Exhibit 2.1** to the Agreement is hereby replaced in its entirety with the attached **Exhibit 2.1**.

4. **Section 2.3.** A new subsection (f) to Section 2.3 of the Agreement is hereby added to read in its entirety as follows:

“(f) **Joint and Several Liability.** Hospital and Contractor acknowledge that they will be jointly and severally liable for any Federal Health Care Program overpayments relating to claims with respect to NMC Services furnished by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. The foregoing is not intended and shall not be construed to diminish, limit, alter or otherwise modify in any way the Parties’ respective indemnification obligations under this Agreement.”

5. **Section 3.5.** Section 3.5 to the Agreement is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

3.5 Right to Offset Insurance Costs.

(a) In the event that Contractor does not purchase or otherwise have the liability insurance set forth in this Section at any time during the term of this Agreement, and without limiting any rights or remedies of County, County may at its option and within its sole discretion provide the liability insurance required by this Section and continue to pay the premiums therefor. If Contractor does not promptly reimburse all such amounts, then County shall have the right to withhold and offset the compensation due to Contractor under this Agreement, in addition to such other rights or privileges as County may have at law or in equity.

(b) The County’s option to provide such insurance and to offset the compensation otherwise due to the Contractor shall also apply to the “Tail Coverage” referenced in Section 3.3, including for general liability if during the term of the Agreement such coverage has been written on a claims made basis, which is required to remain effective after the expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason.”

6. **Section 5.1.** Section 5.1 to the Agreement is hereby amended and restated to read in its entirety as follows:

5.1 Term. This Agreement shall become effective on October 1, 2014 (the “**Effective Date**”), and shall continue until September 30, 2017 (the “**Expiration Date**”), subject to the termination provisions of this Agreement.”

7. **New Section 5.11.** A new Section 5.11 is hereby added to the Agreement to read in its entirety as follows:

“5.11 Termination or Amendment in Response to Reduction of Government Funding. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if Federal, State or local government terminates or reduces its funding to the County for services that are to be provided under this Agreement, County, in its sole and absolute discretion after consultation with the Contractor, may elect to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of termination to Contractor effective immediately or on such other date as County specifies in the notice. Alternatively, County and Contractor may mutually agree to amend the Agreement in response to a reduction in Federal, State or local funding.”

8. **Exhibit 6.3.** Exhibit 6.3 to the Agreement is hereby deleted and replaced in its entirety and attached hereto as **Exhibit 6.3.**

9. **Counterparts.** This Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

10. **Continuing Effect of Agreement.** Except as herein provided, all of the terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect from the Effective Date of the Agreement.

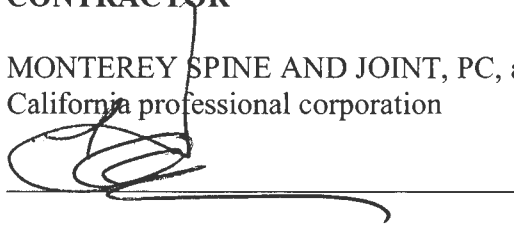
11. **Reference.** After the date of this Amendment, any reference to the Agreement shall mean the Agreement as amended by this Amendment.

[signature page follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Hospital and Contractor have executed this Amendment as of the day and year first written above.

CONTRACTOR

MONTEREY SPINE AND JOINT, PC, a
California professional corporation



Date: 8/31, 2015

NATIVIDAD MEDICAL CENTER



Deputy Purchasing Agent

Date: 10/1, 2015

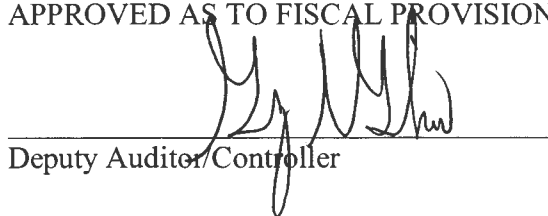
APPROVED AS TO LEGAL PROVISIONS:



Stacy Saetta, Deputy County Counsel

Date: 9/4, 2015

APPROVED AS TO FISCAL PROVISIONS:



Deputy Auditor/Controller

Date: 9-4, 2015

Exhibit 2.1

COMPENSATION

1. **Coverage Services.** Hospital shall pay to Contractor an amount equal to Two Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$2,650) per unrestricted twenty-four (24) hour period of Coverage Services provided pursuant to this Agreement (the “**Coverage Services Compensation**”), provided, however, that Contractor is in compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement and applicable Laws.

2. **Non-Clinic Uninsured Patient Services.**

a) Hospital shall pay to Contractor an amount equal to then-current (as of the date of service), facility-based, Medicare Physician Fee Schedule amount for Uninsured Services (as defined below) provided by Group Physician (the “**Uninsured Patient Compensation**”). The Uninsured Patient Compensation shall be Contractor’s sole and exclusive compensation for Uninsured Services provided by Group Physician pursuant to this Agreement and Contractor shall not seek further compensation from any other source. Contractor shall be paid on the CPT codes submitted and verified by Hospital professional billing office coders.

b) For purposes of this Agreement, “**Uninsured Services**” shall mean medically necessary, professional medical services that are rendered to Non-Clinic Patients at Hospital who are not insured for medical care by any third-party payor and ineligible for federal or state medical assistance under the Medicare or Medicaid programs (collectively, the “**Uninsured Patients**”). Contractor understands and agrees that the determination of whether a patient is uninsured may not be made until sometime after the date of service. Uninsured Services do not include any Professional Services provided by Contractor or any Group Physician to Excluded Patients.

c) Procedures with the following modifiers will be reimbursed at the Medicare allowable rate using the current established Medicare guidelines for reimbursement when using the modifier:

(i) Procedures that are or could be billed with the modifier 22 (unusual procedural services) will not be considered for additional reimbursement to be paid to Contractor; rather the procedure will be reimbursed at the Medicare allowable rate and if other modifiers are used, the procedure will be paid at the current established Medicare reimbursement rate applying Medicare guidelines for those modifiers.

(ii) If modifier 52 (reduced services) and/or 53 (discontinued services) is/are needed for billing, the percentage of the Medicare allowable rate to be paid to Contractor will be determined by the Hospital physician billing manager and the Hospital Chief Medical Officer (CMO).

(iii) Unless a code is specifically designated as an add-on code, the Medicare rules for multiple procedure guidelines shall apply (*i.e.*, the main procedure will be paid at one hundred percent (100%) and subsequent procedures will be paid at fifty percent (50%)), consistent with Medicare reimbursement guidelines for modifiers.

d) The Parties intend that Hospital will pay for Uninsured Services only if the Uninsured Patient has no means of paying for those services (*e.g.*, independent wealth, third-party payor, etc.). If it is later determined that an Uninsured Patient or a third-party payor will pay for the Uninsured Services the following shall apply:

(i) Hospital shall have the sole and exclusive right to bill, collect and own any and all fees that might be collected for Uninsured Services provided by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement. Contractor hereby grants Hospital the right to retain any and all collections received by Hospital for Contractor's Uninsured Services. In the event that Contractor receives any payment from third-party payors for Uninsured Services that Contractor furnishes pursuant to this Agreement, Contractor shall promptly turn over such payments to Hospital. Contractor shall designate Hospital as Contractor's attorney-in-fact for billing for Uninsured Services provided by Contractor pursuant to this Agreement.

(ii) For any procedure without an established RVU value and/or not listed procedure (*e.g.*, x stop), Hospital will reimburse Contractor based upon Hospital's reimbursement from a payor if Hospital has received payment from a payor. In the event no payment is received from a payor, no reimbursement will be made to Contractor.

(iii) The Parties agree to resolve any and all billing, collection and reimbursement disputes as expeditiously as possible, up to and including the dispute resolution procedure outlined in this Section 2. If a claim is disputed by a payor, Contractor will make every effort to assist the Hospital billing manager to resolve the claim. If the claim is denied by the payor, and no payment is received within twelve (12) months of the service date, the amount of the disputed claim will be adjusted (recouped) from future payments due to Contractor after the twelve (12) month period.

(iv) Hospital will adjust future invoices if Hospital is unable to recover payment for surgery/treatment due to a procedure being classified by a payor as non-payable (*e.g.*, it is considered experimental, represents non-covered services, is categorized as medically unnecessary, or is otherwise excluded from coverage), or if Contractor is found to have breached a necessary reimbursement procedure (*e.g.*, scheduling a procedure from its office and not obtaining the authorization for the procedure to be performed at Hospital). No payment will be allowed to Contractor in these circumstances. At its discretion and at its sole cost and expense, Contractor may appeal to the payor any determination that a procedure is non-payable.

e) Hospital shall pay to Contractor the Uninsured Patient Compensation, so long as Contractor submits a “**Non-Clinic Uninsured Patient Compensation Claim**”, attached hereto as **Attachment B**, with information relating to its patient encounters as follows:

- (i) It has been 90 - 180 days since the date of service(s);
- (ii) Contractor has made a reasonable effort to collect payment and has been rejected for payment by the responsible third party(ies) and/or patient(s) for the patient(s) listed below;
- (iii) Contractor has received notification from the third party(ies) and/or patient(s) that no payment will be made. Copies of denials from all payor sources are attached to this form;
- (iv) Contractor has verified that patient has not become eligible for a government sponsored program; and
- (v) Contractor has completed a 1500 billing form.

3. **Clinic Services.** Contractor shall provide Professional Services in the Clinics (“**Clinic Services**”) a minimum of one (1) Half Day Clinic per week. For purposes of this Agreement, a “**Half-Day Clinic**” shall mean a minimum of four (4) hours per day in the Clinic providing Clinic Services and not simultaneously providing Coverage Services. Hospital shall pay to Contractor an amount equal to Three Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$325) per hour (“**Clinic Hourly Rate**”) for those Professional Services rendered by Group Physician under this Agreement; provided, however, that Contractor is in compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

(a) Hospital shall bill and collect for all Professional Services provided by Group Physician in the Clinic as set forth in Section 2.3; and

(b) If the Group Physician providing Clinic Services is simultaneously providing Coverage Services at Hospital, the Coverage Services Compensation shall be decreased by an amount equal to the Clinic Hourly Rate for each hour spent by such Group Physician in the Clinic providing Clinic Services.

4. **Director Services.** Hospital shall pay to Contractor the amount equal to three Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250) per hour for the provision of Director Services.

5. **Professional Liability Reimbursement.** In the event that Contractor does not purchase the professional liability insurance set forth in Article III of the Agreement, Hospital has the right to deduct a minimum of \$16,198 annual premium contribution (e.g., calculated at Forty-Four Dollars and Thirty-Eight Cents (\$44.38) per provider/per day worked), to reimburse Hospital for Hospital's payment of professional liability insurance premiums on behalf of Contractor; these amounts may also increase at a liquidated rate of 15% should Contractor and/or its' physicians fail to timely submit applications (e.g., including physicians FTEs and medical specialties), at the current quoted Beta Healthcare Group rates.

6. **Timing.** Hospital shall pay the compensation due for Services performed by Contractor after Contractor's submission of the monthly invoice of preceding month's activity and time report in accordance with this Agreement; provided, however, that if Contractor does not submit an invoice and time sheet within sixty (60) days of the end of the month during which Services were performed, Hospital shall not be obligated to pay Contractor for Services performed during that month. The County of Monterey Standard Payment Terms for contracts/PSAs and paying invoices is "30 days after receipt of the certified invoice in the Auditor-Controller's Office".

Attachment B

Non-Clinic Uninsured Patient Compensation Claim

DATE:

CLAIM TO: Natividad Medical Center or FAX: 831.755.4087
Post Office Box 80007
Salinas, CA 93912

Attention: Vince Carr/Billing Office

PAY TO:

CONTRACTOR:

- It has been ninety (90) days and no more than one hundred and eighty (180) days since the date of service(s).
- Contractor has made a reasonable effort to collect payment and has been rejected for payment by the responsible third party(ies) and/or patient(s) for the patient(s) listed below.
- Contractor has received notification from the third party(ies) and/or patient(s) that no payment will be made. Copies of denials from all payor sources are attached to this form.
- Contractor has verified that patient has not become eligible for a government sponsored program.
- Group Physician has completed documentation to support claim (dictation & authentication)
- 1500 Form(s) for each patient listed below is attached to this claim.

Questions about this claim should be directed to Contractor or Contractor's Billing Office:

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

Date of Service	Provider Name	Hospital Patient Account Number	CPT	Modifier	Medicare Rate for area JE Rest of California 0111299
Amount Due:					

NMC BILLING OFFICE:

- Approved
- Verified patient has no payor source
 - Verified dictation to support the claim
 - Verified e-signature
- Date: _____

- Denied
- Patient has payor source _____
 - Missing dictation
 - Missing e-signature
- Date: _____

→ Forward Claim to Physician Services

→ Return Claim to Contractor

Exhibit 6.3

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

This Business Associate Agreement (“Agreement”), effective October 1, 2015 (“Effective Date”), is entered into by and among the County of Monterey, a political subdivision of the State of California, on behalf of Natividad Medical Center (“Covered Entity”) and MONTEREY SPINE AND JOINT, PC (“Business Associate”) (each a “Party” and collectively the “Parties”).

Business Associate provides certain services for Covered Entity (“Services”) that involve the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information that is created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity (“PHI”). The Parties are committed to complying with the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E as amended from time to time (the “Privacy Rule”), and with the Security Standards, 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subpart C as amended from time to time (the “Security Rule”), under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”), as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act and its implementing regulations (“HITECH”). Business Associate acknowledges that, pursuant to HITECH, 45 C.F.R. §§ 164.308 (administrative safeguards), 164.310 (physical safeguards), 164.312 (technical safeguards), 164.316 (policies and procedures and documentation requirements) and 164.502 *et. seq.* apply to Business Associate in the same manner that such sections apply to Covered Entity. The additional requirements of Title XIII of HITECH contained in Public Law 111-005 that relate to privacy and security and that are made applicable with respect to covered entities shall also be applicable to Business Associate. The Parties are also committed to complying with the California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, Ca. Civil Code §§ 56 *et seq.* (“CMIA”), where applicable. Business Associate acknowledges that the CMIA prohibits Business Associate from further disclosing the PHI it receives from Covered Entity where such disclosure would be violative of the CMIA. The Parties are also committed to complying with applicable requirements of the Red Flag Rules issued pursuant to the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 (“Red Flag Rules”). This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which PHI, and, when applicable, Electronic Protected Health Information (“EPHI”), shall be handled. The Parties further acknowledge that state statutes or other laws or precedents may impose data breach notification or information security obligations, and it is their further intention that each shall comply with such laws as well as HITECH and HIPAA in the collection, handling, storage, and disclosure of personal data of patients or other personal identifying information exchanged or stored in connection with their relationship.

The Parties agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS

All capitalized terms used in this Agreement but not otherwise defined shall have the meaning set forth in the Privacy Rule, Security Rule and HITECH.

2. **PERMITTED USES AND DISCLOSURES OF PHI**

2.1 Unless otherwise limited herein, Business Associate may:

(a) use or disclose PHI to perform functions, activities or Services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as requested by Covered Entity from time to time, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy or Security Rules or the standards for Business Associate Agreements set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e), exceed the minimum necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of such use or disclosure, violate the additional requirements of HITECH contained in Public Law 111-005 that relate to privacy and security, or violate the CMIA;

(b) disclose PHI for the purposes authorized by this Agreement only: (i) to its employees, subcontractors and agents; (ii) as directed by this Agreement; or (iii) as otherwise permitted by the terms of this Agreement;

(c) use PHI in its possession to provide Data Aggregation Services to Covered Entity as permitted by 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B);

(d) use PHI in its possession for 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 the PHI in its possession to third parties for the proper management and administration of Business Associate to the extent and in the manner 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 persons to whom the information is disclosed that it will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as Required by Law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies the Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which 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);

(g) de-identify any PHI obtained by Business Associate under this Agreement for further use or disclosure only to the extent such de-identification is pursuant to this Agreement, and use such de-identified data in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502(d)(1).

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) use and/or disclose the PHI only as permitted or required by this Agreement or as otherwise Required by Law;

(b) report to the privacy officer of Covered Entity, in writing, (i) any use and/or disclosure of the PHI that is not permitted or required by this Agreement of which Business Associate becomes aware, and (ii) any Breach of unsecured PHI as specified by HITECH, within two (2) days of Business Associate's determination of the occurrence of such unauthorized use and/or disclosure. In such event, the Business Associate shall, in consultation with the Covered Entity, mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to the Business Associate of such improper use or disclosure. The notification of any Breach of unsecured PHI shall include, to the extent possible, the identification of each individual whose unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed by the Business Associate to have been, accessed, acquired, used or disclosed during the Breach.

(c) use commercially reasonable safeguards to maintain the security of the PHI and to prevent use and/or disclosure of such PHI other than as provided herein;

(d) obtain and maintain an agreement with all of its subcontractors and agents that receive, use, or have access to, PHI pursuant to which agreement such subcontractors and agents agree to adhere to the same restrictions and conditions on the use and/or disclosure of PHI that apply to Business Associate pursuant to this Agreement;

(e) make available all internal practices, records, books, agreements, policies and procedures and PHI relating to the use and/or disclosure of PHI to the Secretary for purposes of determining Covered Entity or Business Associate's compliance with the Privacy Rule;

(f) document disclosures of PHI and information related to such disclosure and, within ten (10) 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, as well as provide an accounting of disclosures, as required by HITECH, directly to an individual provided that the individual has made a request directly to Business Associate for such an accounting. 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 two (2) 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) subject to Section 4.4 below, return to Covered Entity within twenty-one (21) days of the termination of this Agreement, the PHI in its possession and retain no copies, including backup copies;

(h) disclose to its subcontractors, agents 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 in a Designated Record Set:

(i) upon ten (10) days' prior written request from Covered Entity, provide access to the PHI in a Designated Record Set to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, the individual to whom such PHI relates or his or her authorized representative to meet a request by such individual under 45 C.F.R. § 164.524; and

(ii) upon ten (10) days' prior written request from Covered Entity, make any amendment(s) to the PHI that Covered Entity directs pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.526;

(j) maintain policies and procedures to detect and prevent identity theft in connection with the provision of the Services, to the extent required to comply with the Red Flag Rules;

(k) notify the Covered Entity within five (5) 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 cooperate fully with the Covered Entity in such challenge;

(l) maintain a formal security program materially in accordance with all applicable data security and privacy laws and industry standards designed to ensure the security and integrity of the Covered Entity's data and protect against threats or hazards to such security

The Business Associate acknowledges that, as between the Business Associate and the Covered Entity, all PHI shall be and remain the sole property of the Covered Entity.

3.2 Additional Responsibilities of Business Associate with Respect to EPHI. In the event that Business Associate has access to EPHI, in addition to the other requirements set forth in this Agreement relating to PHI, Business Associate shall:

(a) implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of EPHI that Business Associate creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity as required by 45 C.F.R. Part 164, Subpart C;

(b) ensure that any subcontractor or agent to whom Business Associate provides any EPHI agrees in writing to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect such EPHI; and

(c) report to the privacy officer of Covered Entity, in writing, any Security Incident involving EPHI of which Business Associate becomes aware within two (2) days of Business Associate's discovery of such Security Incident. For purposes of this Section, a Security Incident shall mean (consistent with the definition set forth at 45 C.F.R. § 164.304), the attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with systems operations in an information system. In such event, the Business Associate shall, in consultation with the Covered Entity, mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to the Business Associate of such improper use or disclosure.

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 limitations in the Notice pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.520, to the extent that such limitations may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI;

(c) 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;

(d) 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

(e) notify Business Associate, in writing and in a timely manner, 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. TERMS AND TERMINATION

4.1 Term. This Agreement shall become effective on the Effective Date and shall continue in effect unless terminated as provided in this Article 4. Certain provisions and requirements of this Agreement shall survive its expiration or other termination as set forth in Section 5.1 herein.

4.2 Termination. Either Covered Entity or Business Associate may terminate this Agreement and any related agreements if the terminating Party determines in good faith that the terminated Party has breached a material term of this Agreement; provided, however, that no Party may terminate this Agreement if the breaching Party cures such breach to the reasonable satisfaction of the terminating Party within thirty (30) days after the breaching Party's receipt of written notice of such breach.

4.3 Automatic Termination. This Agreement shall automatically terminate without any further action of the Parties upon the termination or expiration of Business Associate's provision of Services to Covered Entity.

4.4 Effect of Termination. Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement for any reason, Business Associate shall return all PHI pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(2)(ii)(I) if, and to the extent that, it is feasible to do so. Prior to doing so, Business Associate shall recover any PHI in the possession of its subcontractors or agents. To the extent it is not feasible for Business Associate to return or destroy any portion of the PHI, Business Associate shall provide Covered Entity a statement that Business Associate has determined that it is infeasible to return or destroy all or some portion of the PHI in its possession or in possession of its subcontractors or agents. Business Associate shall extend any and all protections, limitations and restrictions contained in this Agreement to any PHI retained after the termination of this Agreement until such time as the PHI is returned to Covered Entity or destroyed.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

5.1 Survival. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate and Covered Entity under the provisions of Sections 4.4, 5.1, 5.6, and 5.7, and Section 2.1 (solely with respect to PHI that Business Associate retains in accordance with Section 4.4 because it is not feasible to return or destroy such PHI), shall survive termination of this Agreement until such time as the PHI is returned to Covered Entity or destroyed. In addition, Section 3.1(i) shall survive termination of this Agreement, provided that Covered Entity determines that the PHI being retained pursuant to Section 4.4 constitutes a Designated Record Set.

5.2 Amendments; Waiver. This Agreement 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 the HIPAA, HITECH or Red Flag Rules is materially amended in a manner that changes the obligations of Business Associates or Covered Entities, the Parties agree to negotiate in good faith appropriate amendment(s) to this Agreement to give effect to the revised obligations. Further, no provision of this Agreement 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 Agreement 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:

Monterey Spine and Joint, PC

12 UPPER RAVSDALE DR., SUITE A

MONTEREY, CA 93940

Attn: CEO

Phone: 831-648-7200

Fax: 831-648-7207

If to Covered Entity, to:

Natividad Medical Center
Deputy Purchasing Manager
1441 Constitution Blvd
Salinas, CA 93906
Phone: 831.755.4111
Fax: 831.757.2592

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 Agreement 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 Choice of Law; Interpretation. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California; as provided, however, that any ambiguities in this Agreement shall be resolved in a manner that allows Business Associate to comply with the Privacy Rule, and, if applicable, the Security Rule and the CMIA.

5.7 Indemnification. Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County of Monterey (hereinafter County), its officers, agents, and employees from any claim, liability, loss, injury, cost, expense, penalty or damage, including the County's reasonable cost of providing notification of and of mitigating any acquisition, access, use or disclosure of PHI in a manner not permitted by this BAA, arising out of, or in connection with, performance of this BAA by Contractor and/or its agents, members, employees, or sub-contractors, excepting only loss, injury, cost, expense, penalty or damage caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of personnel employed by the County. It is the intent of the parties to this BAA to provide the broadest possible indemnification for the County. Contractor shall reimburse the County for all costs, attorneys' fees, expenses, and liabilities incurred by the County with respect to any investigation, enforcement proceeding or litigation in which Contractor is obligated to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County under this BAA. This provision is in addition to and independent of any indemnification provision in any related or other agreement between the Covered Entity and the Business Associate.

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

**BUSINESS ASSOCIATE
MONTEREY SPINE AND JOINT, PC**


By:  _____

Print Name: HARAMANDARIS

Print Title: MD / SECRETARY

Date: 8-31-2015

**COUNTY OF MONTEREY, ON BEHALF OF
NATIVIDAD MEDICAL CENTER**

By:  _____

Print Name: Gregory Gray

Print Title: CEO

Date: 10/1/15