

## TRICARE/MEDICARE PRIVATE CONTRACT

This agreement is entered into by and between \_\_Randall V Sellers MD\_\_ (hereinafter called "Physician"), whose principal medical office is located at 11122 Wurzbach Road #201, San Antonio Tx 78230 and

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(a beneficiary enrolled in TRICARE/MEDICARE, hereinafter called "Beneficiary"), who resides at

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### A. Background

A change in the Social Security Act, effective January 1, 1998, permits Medicare beneficiaries and physicians to contract privately outside of the Medicare program. Under the law as it existed prior to January 1, 1998, a physician was not permitted to charge a beneficiary more than a certain percentage in excess of the Medicare fee schedule amount (limiting charge). The law now permits physicians and beneficiaries to enter into private arrangements through a written contract under which the Beneficiary may agree to pay the Physician more than that which would be paid under the Medicare program.

However, beneficiaries and physicians who take advantage of this provision are not permitted to submit claims or to expect payment for those services from Medicare. The Physician has certain other obligations, such as filing an affidavit with the appropriate Medicare carrier(s), a copy of which is attached to this contract. The purpose of this contract is to permit the Beneficiary and the Physician to take advantage of this change in the Medicare law, and it sets forth the rights and obligations of each. Furthermore, this agreement is limited to the financial agreement between Physician and Beneficiary and is not intended to obligate either party to a specific course or duration of treatment.

Dr Sellers does not participate in any government health care program (Medicare, Medicaid, Tricare/Medicare). Dr. Sellers files an affidavit with Medicare every 2 years "opting out" of Medicare. It is not clear if there is such a requirement for Tricare. Dr Sellers is not an Authorized TRICARE/MEDICARE Physician. This private contract is an effort to make clear to the beneficiary the financial obligations involved in seeing Dr. Sellers.

### B. Obligations of Physician

1. Physician agrees to provide such treatment as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties and at mutually agreed upon fees.
2. **Physician agrees not to submit any claims under the Tricare / Medicare program for any items or services even if such items or services are otherwise covered by Tricare / Medicare.**
3. Physician acknowledges that (s)he will not execute this contract at a time when the Beneficiary is facing an emergency or urgent healthcare situation.
4. Physician agrees to provide the beneficiary or his/her legal representative with a copy of this document before items or services are furnished to the beneficiary under its terms.

C. Obligations of Beneficiary

1. **Beneficiary or his/her legal representative agrees to be fully responsible for payment of all items or services furnished by Physician and understand that no reimbursement will be provided under the Tricare/Medicare program for such items or services.**
2. Beneficiary or his/her legal representative acknowledges and understands that no limits under the Tricare/Medicare program (including the limits under section 1848 (g) of the Social Security Act) apply to amounts that may be charged by Physician for such items or services.
3. **Beneficiary or his/her legal representative agrees not to submit a claim to Tricare/Medicare and further agrees not to ask Physician to submit a claim to Tricare/Medicare.**
4. Beneficiary or his/her legal representative understands that Tricare/Medicare payment will not be made for any items or services furnished by Physician that would have otherwise been covered by Tricare/Medicare if there were no private contract and a proper Tricare/Medicare claim had been submitted.
5. **Beneficiary or his/her legal representative enters into this contract with the knowledge and understanding that he/she has the right to obtain Tricare/Medicare-covered items and services from physicians and practitioners who have not opted out of Tricare/Medicare, and that the Beneficiary is not compelled to enter into private contracts that apply to other Tricare/Medicare-covered services furnished by other physicians or practitioners who have not opted out of Tricare/Medicare.**

D. Physician's Status

Beneficiary or his/her legal representative further acknowledges his/her understanding that Physician has not been excluded from participation under government programs under section 1128, 1156, 1892 or any other section of the Social Security Act.

E. Term and Termination

This agreement shall become effective on \_\_\_\_\_ and shall continue in effect until \_\_\_\_\_. Despite the term of the agreement, either party may choose to terminate treatment with reasonable notice to the other party. Notwithstanding this right to terminate treatment, both Physician and Beneficiary or his/her legal representative agree that the obligation not to pursue Tricare/Medicare reimbursement for items and services provided under this contract shall survive this contract.

F. Successors and Assigns

The parties agree that this agreement shall be fully binding on their heirs, successors, and assigns.

The parties hereto, intending to be legally bound by signing this agreement below, have caused this agreement to be executed on the date written below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randall V Sellers MD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Beneficiary (printed) or his/her Legal Representative his/her Legal Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Beneficiary or his/her Legal Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature