George W. Hicks, M.D.
Vincent B. Ostrowski, M.D.

Main office: 7440 North Shadeland Avenue, Suite 150
Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

Phone:
(317) 842-4901
Toll Free:
(800) 818-3277
Fax:
(317) 842-4393

Welcome! So that we may serve you better, we ask that you carefully complete the new patient registration and medical history forms and bring them with you to your appointment, along with any previous test results and/or medical records you may have. **Please arrive with your *completed* forms at least 15 minutes before your appointment time** to allow for registration and preparation of your record.

Please check with your health insurance and/or your primary care doctor to make sure the doctor you are seeing is an enrolled provider with your insurance and if you will need a referral for this visit. **If you do need a referral authorization for your insurance to cover this visit, it is your responsibility to obtain this referral.** You may either bring it with you to the visit or have your doctor's office fax it to us at (317) 842-4393 at least 2 days before your appointment.

Our insurance contracts require that we collect any co-pays at the time of your visit. For your convenience, our practice accepts cash, personal checks, Mastercard, Visa, Discover Card, and American Express.

If you have any questions about fees, insurance, or referral information, please call our Patient Accounts Representative at (317) 570-7353 extension 126. If you need to cancel or reschedule this appointment, please call (317) 842-4901 during normal business hours. **Please notify us at least 24 hours in advance if you are unable to keep your appointment.**

IN SUMMARY, BRING WITH YOU:

- ❒ Enclosed forms, completed and signed
- ❒ Any pertinent test results and/or medical records, including hearing tests in last 6 months or CT/MRI of head.
- ❒ **Your current insurance card(s)**. Please bring your insurance cards to every visit. If we do not have your cards, we will not be able to bill your insurance and you will be responsible for the visit fees.
- ❒ **A Driver's License or other Photo I.D.** as for your protection we verify identity
- ❒ Any necessary referral forms or referral numbers if required by your insurance. Remember, unauthorized visits will not be covered by your insurance. Unauthorized, non-urgent visits will be rescheduled unless you are willing to pay in full at the time of service.

We look forward to your visit!

Office addresses:

NORTHEAST: 7440 N. Shadeland Avenue, Suite 150, Indianapolis
NORTHWEST: 2020 West 86th Street, Suite 307, Indianapolis
KOKOMO: 1542 S. Dixon Road, Suite F, Kokomo
MOORESVILLE: 904 N. Samuel Moore Pkwy, Mooresville

rev 01-11

PATIENT REGISTRATION

PLEASE PRINT

PATIENT INFORMATION: **Date completed__________________**

Patient's Last Name:	Social Security No.:
First Name and Middle Initial:	Occupation:
Address:	Employer:
City: State: Zip:	Employer Address:
Home Phone: ( )	Work Phone: ( ) Ext.
Cell Phone: ( )	Date of Birth: Age: Sex: M F
Marital Status: ☐ Married ☐ Single ☐ Widowed ☐ Separated ☐ Divorced	E-mail address that we may use to contact you regarding appts, etc:
How did you hear about us? Check all that apply: ☐ Family Doctor ☐ Specialist ☐ Insur Co ☐ Family/Friend ☐ Yellow Pages ☐ Website ☐ Other	
Referring Dr: ☐ same as Family Dr	Family Dr:
Ref Dr Address:	Fam Dr Address:
Ref Dr City/State/Zip:	Fam Dr City/State/Zip
Ref Dr. Phone: ( ) Ref Dr. Fax: ( )	Fam Dr. Phone: ( ) Fam Dr. Fax: ( )

RESPONSIBLE PARTY, IF OTHER THAN PATIENT (For minors, complete for parent or legal guardian):

Name:	Relationship to Patient:
Address:	Social Security No.:
City: State: Zip::	Employer:
Home Phone: ( )	Address:
Work Phone: ( ) Ext:	City: State: Zip:

NEAREST RELATIVE NOT LIVING WITH PATIENT:

Name:	Home phone: ( ) Relationship:
Address:	City/State/Zip:

PRIMARY INSURANCE:	***SECONDARY INSURANCE:***
Insur Name:	Insur Name:
Claims Address:	Claims Address:
City: State: Zip:	City: State: Zip:
Policy Holder's Name:	Policy Holder's Name:
Policy Holder's Birthdate: Sex:	Policy Holder's Birthdate: Sex:
Policy Holder Certificate/ID No:	Policy Holder Certificate/ID No:
Group or Policy No.:	Group or Policy No.:
Patient's Relationship: ☐ Self ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other	Patient's Relationship: ☐ Self ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other

AUTHORIZATION & ASSIGNMENT:

I authorize any holder of medical information about me to release to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid or any other insurance company with which my/my dependent's care is covered any information needed to determine these benefits or benefits for related services. I further request that payment of authorized Medicare, Medigap, or any other insurance company benefits be made on my behalf directly to Midwest Ear Institute, P.C., for any services furnished to me by my physician. I acknowledge responsibility for payment of any deductibles, co-insurance, non-covered services, and services obtained without prior authorization from my insurance when required. This authorization is valid until revoked by me or my legal representative. A photocopy of this authorization shall be considered as valid as the original. If for any reason the account should become delinquent, I agree to pay for all collection and legal fees.

Patient/Legal Representative Signature:____ Date:________________

rev 3/2/07

Pharmacy and Prescription Benefits Information

Should the doctor decide you need to be taking a prescription medication, we are able to transmit prescriptions directly to your pharmacy, so your medication can be ready for you upon arrival. Please provide the name and address of the pharmacy that you would wish to have your prescriptions sent to. You may also provide information on an alternate pharmacy, in case you have one close to home and another close to your work. At the time a prescription is issued, we will verify with you the pharmacy to which you want the prescription sent but having the information in our system will speed up the process of getting your prescription on its way. Even if we have your pharmacy entered in our system, you may elect to take a printed copy to your pharmacy.

PLEASE PRINT

PATIENT INFORMATION: **Date completed________________**

Patient's Last Name:	Date of Birth:
First Name and Middle Initial:	

PREFERRED PHARMACY:	***ALTERNATE PHARMACY:***
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City: State: Zip::	City: State: Zip::
Phone: ( )	Phone: ( )

Please provide the name and group number of any prescription drug benefits that you may have so that the doctor can check any medications he may wish to prescribe for you against the formulary of your insurance plan with the goal of minimizing your out-of-pocket costs whenever possible. You may have a separate identification card for your prescription drug benefits. **If this information is on the insurance identification cards you are presenting at registration, you may skip this section.**

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS – 30 day supply	***MAIL ORDER – 90 day supply***
Rx Insur Plan:	Mail Order Rx Insur Plan:
Claims Address:	Claims Address:
City: State: Zip:	City: State: Zip:
Rx Group No.	Rx Group No.
Patient's Relationship: ☐ Self ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other	Patient's Relationship: ☐ Self ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other

Patient/Legal Representative Signature:____ Date:________________

Please print clearly in ink. **Midwest Ear Institute, P.C.** Acct.#_____________________

First Name:	Last Name:	Age:	Weight:	☐ Male ☐ Female
Medical problem for today's visit:		Birth Date: _______/______/_______ Mo Day Year		

Hearing/Ear/Balance Questions (Please answer all.)

Do you have hearing loss? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears
If you have hearing loss, was the loss: ☐ Gradual ☐ Sudden ☐ Stays the same
• When did the hearing loss begin?________________ • Does your hearing change? (good days/bad days) ☐ No ☐ Yes
• If your hearing changes, do you get dizzy when your hearing is down? ☐ No ☐ Yes • Are sounds distorted? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Do you have noise in the ears (tinnitus)? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears
Does the noise change (come & go)? ☐ No ☐ Yes • Does the noise match your heartbeat? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Do you experience ear pressure? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears
Do you have ear fullness/stuffiness? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears
•Does the fullness/stuffiness change? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Do you have ear popping/crackling? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears
Do you have a history of ear infections? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears

Have you ever had ear surgery? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears
Do you have a history of ear wax buildup? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both ears

Ear pain? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both	Ear drainage? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both
Ever wear a hearing aid? ☐ No ☐ Yes: ☐ Right ear ☐ Left ear ☐ Both # yrs______	Have you ever had seasonal allergies? ☐ No ☐ Yes Are you frequently around cigarette smoke? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Been treated with intravenous antibiotics? ☐ No ☐ Yes	Autoimmune disorder in you or your family? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Ever had a head injury? ☐ No ☐ Yes | Ever had meningitis? ☐ No ☐ Yes | Otosclerosis in your family? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Have you fallen in the last 2 years while engaging in normal activities, e.g., walking, going up steps? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Do you have a problem with balance or dizziness? ☐ No (go to next page) ☐ Yes, please answer questions below:

Describe your balance problem ☐ Spinning/rotation sense of motion ☐ Lightheadedness ☐ Unsteadiness
• When did your balance problems start? ____
• Is your balance problem ☐ Constant (present all the time) *OR* ☐ Comes in episodes (go to next section)

If your balance problem comes in episodes-- How long does the typical episode last? ______hours _____minutes
• How many episodes have you had in the last month?______ year?______ •When was the last episode?_______________
• When you are dizzy, does your hearing change?☐ No ☐ Yes • Do you have nausea and/or vomiting? ☐ No ☐ Yes
• Does ear noise (tinnitus) change? ☐ No ☐ Yes • Does fullness/ear pressure change? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Are balance symptoms worse:
• With changes in head position? ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, which direction? ☐ Up ☐ Down ☐ Right ☐ Left
• Around the time of a headache? ☐ No ☐ Yes • Females: Around the time of a menstrual period? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Do you have a rotation/spinning/tilting sensation when you cough/strain/blow your nose or lift heavy objects? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Do you have a rotation/spinning/tilting sensation when you hear loud noises or certain tones? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Do you get faint or lightheaded if you stand up quickly? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Have you fainted/passed out/blacked out at any time? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Have you ever had a stroke, TIA, or loss of vision briefly in one eye? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Do your legs cramp, ache, or fatigue easily on walking? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Have you ever had surgery for a balance problem? ☐ No ☐ Yes	Do you have migraine headaches? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Premature birth? ☐ No ☐ Yes Ever had syphilis? ☐ No ☐ Yes	Ever receive chemotherapy? ☐ No ☐ Yes
Ever had diabetes? ☐ No ☐ Yes Anemia? ☐ No ☐ Yes	Do you scuba dive or sky dive? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Please continue on the other side

George Hicks, MD________ Vincent Ostrowski, MD_______	Rev. w/patient_____/_____/_____

Review of Body Systems

	Circle any of the following symptoms you may be experiencing.
General	Weight loss Weight gain Fever Other
Eyes	Dryness Blurry vision Double vision Pain Other
Nose/Throat/Sinus	Congestion Pressure Drainage Pain Hoarseness Difficulty swallowing Other
Heart/Blood Vessels	Chest pain Chest pressure Palpitations Leg swelling Other
Lungs/Breathing	Shortness of breath Cough Wheezing Other
Stomach/Bowels/Ulcers	Acid reflux Cramping Diarrhea Constipation Pain Other
Kidney/Bladder/Prostate	Incontinence Difficulty starting stream of urine Bleeding Pain Other
Muscles/Bones/Joints	Pain Stiffness Swelling Other
Skin/Breasts	Skin dryness Skin sores Skin rash Breast swelling/tenderness/lump Other
Neurologic	Headaches Tremor--Weakness--Numbness (arm, leg, both) Sleep apnea Other
Psychiatric	Depressed Anxious Other
Endocrine/Hormones	Diabetes/High blood sugar Low blood sugar Menopause High thyroid Low thyroid Other
Blood/Lymph	Easy bruising Easy bleeding Low blood count Hemophilia Sickle cell history Other
Allergy/Immune System	Allergies: (Food Insects Latex) Steroid Use History of organ transplant Other

Current Medications

(Include prescription, over-the-counter, and herbal.) ☐ **None**

1. ______________________
Dose: ______________________
2. ______________________
Dose: ______________________
3. ______________________
Dose: ______________________
4. ______________________
Dose: ______________________
5. ______________________
Dose: ______________________
6. ______________________
Dose: ______________________

Past Medical History

Have you had any present or past medical problems that doctors have treated?
☐ No ☐ Yes (If yes, please list below.)

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Past Surgical History

Have you had any past surgeries or surgical procedures?
☐ No ☐ Yes (If yes, please list below.)

1.
2.
3.
4.

Do you have any drug allergies? ☐ No ☐ Yes (list):
If yes, what are your reactions? ☐ Itching ☐ Rash ☐ Swelling ☐ Trouble breathing ☐ Other:

Family History

Does anyone in your family have hearing loss? ☐ No ☐ Yes
If yes, who? __________________
____
Any other medical problems in your family? ☐ No ☐ Yes
If yes, list:
____
____
____
____
____

Social History

1. What is, or was, your occupation?________________________________
2. Have you ever worked in a noisy place? ☐ No ☐ Yes
   • If yes, what place? ______________________ How many years?__________
3. Have you ever been subjected to loud noises in the military?
   ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, how many years? ______________
4. Do you have any noisy hobbies? ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, what?_______Yrs?___
5. Are you at risk for HIV/AIDS? ☐ No ☐ Yes
6. Do you smoke or use tobacco? ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, how many years?____
7. Do you put salt on your food ☐ No ☐ Yes
8. # cups of coffee/tea/cola (containing caffeine) you have/day ______
9. Do you drink any alcohol? ☐ No ☐ Yes, ____ drinks/week

Please Sign here (Patient or Guardian):
X____**Date**____________

FINANCIAL POLICY

Whether you are new to our practice or we have had the pleasure of serving you over the years, we would like you to be aware of our financial policies. ***Please read this information carefully—front and back sides—sign on the reverse, and turn in to the receptionist.*** We will be happy to give you another copy to keep for your reference.

Registration. At each visit our receptionist will verify and update your demographic information and insurance coverage and may periodically ask you to complete a new registration form to insure our information is accurate. **Please be sure to have your insurance cards with you at every visit so we may properly bill your insurance company. If you do not have your card with you, you may be required to make full payment that day.** Because of new federal laws designed to protect you from identity theft, we must also ask for **photo I.D.** such as Driver's License or other government-issued identification.

Insurance. We participate in Medicare, traditional Medicaid (but not Medicaid Managed Care Plans) when secondary to other insurance, and most commercial insurance plans in the central Indiana area but cannot know the details of the coverage and benefits for your particular policy. Therefore, you will need to be familiar with your policy and know what is required to access medical care. Your insurance may have one or more of the following requirements:

- Referral from your primary care physician authorizing your visit with our doctor, done either by a specific form or by a tracking number assigned to your visit. (If your insurance card has a physician's name on it, it usually means that physician must authorize your care by a specialist.)
- Co-pay that must be paid each visit
- Annual deductibles that apply
- Specific hospitals, x-ray facilities, and clinical laboratories that must be utilized for these services.

If you are unsure of what you need, contact your insurance representative or primary care physician before your visit.

A further note about Referral Authorizations: If your insurance policy requires this referral, **it is your responsibility to make sure we have authorization prior to being seen by the doctor**. **Unless you have a medical emergency, if we do not have a referral authorization for your visit and you are unable to obtain one, the visit will be rescheduled.** While this may seem harsh, it is for your protection as much as ours, as some insurance plans will not pay for any tests or treatment that result from an unauthorized initial visit. If you have a second insurance company, please consider whether that insurance company may require prior referral authorization for the services; if so, and none has been obtained, they will deny payment and you will be responsible for the amounts they might have otherwise paid on your behalf.

Patient responsibility balances. You will be responsible for

- Services not covered by your insurance.
- Co-pays (will be collected at check-in) and balances remaining after your insurance company has paid, including deductibles and co-insurance (percentage of the allowed amount that is your obligation).
- Balances that remain unpaid 60 days after they have been filed with your insurance company but we have received no payment or response

(Continued on next page)

Payment in full is expected within 30 days from your first statement advising you of the patient balance due. A $5.00 rebilling fee will be added to your account balance for each subsequent statement and delinquent accounts may be turned over for pursuit by an external collection agency, so *please inform us immediately if financial difficulties arise*.

Self-Pay, Services not covered by insurance, and Large deductibles. If you do not have medical insurance or we are not contracted with your insurance plan, you will be expected to pay at the time of service, or, in some instances, prior to service. Similarly, if you have a large deductible on your insurance policy, we may require a prepayment towards the cost of certain diagnostic tests or surgical procedures. Our billing office will be happy to help you plan to meet the costs of your care.

Disability and FMLA forms. We will complete the first form for your disability insurance at no charge but for all subsequent forms there will be a $15.00 charge. There is also a $15.00 charge for completing FMLA paperwork. Payment should be presented with the form.

Payment methods. For your convenience, in addition to cash or personal check, we also accept VISA, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express cards. Please be aware that checks returned for insufficient funds will result in a $25.00 fee being added to your account.

Medical Care to Minors. If both parents have insurance, the insurance of the parent whose birthday falls first in the calendar year will be considered primary for the child, and the other parent's insurance will be secondary. When the parents are divorced, we will consider the parent/legal guardian who presents a child for care to be the responsible party for payment of services, regardless of financial responsibility established in a divorce decree. Further, care for a patient under 18 years of age must be authorized by a parent, legal guardian, or someone to whom you give written authorization to present the child for care.

Motor Vehicle Accidents. If your medical condition results from a motor vehicle accident, we will treat your account as any other, i.e., we will consider you—not your auto insurance—to be the responsible party for all fees. If you have health insurance, we will bill the health insurance and look to you for any unpaid balances. It will be up to your health insurance company to obtain reimbursement from either your automobile insurance or that of another party who is held responsible for the accident. If you have no health insurance, you will be considered a Self-Pay patient.

Acknowledgement and Authorization. I have read, understand, and agree to the above policies. I Regardless of any insurance I may have, I am ultimately responsible for payment for any professional services rendered. I authorize the release of medical information necessary to process a claim for benefits under my policy and assign payment of my insurance benefits to the Midwest Ear Institute, P.C. If my account should become delinquent, I agree to pay the costs of collection, including legal fees and court costs.

Signature ____ Date____________________

Patient or Responsible Party

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MIDWEST EAR INSTITUTE, P.C. - E-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

We recognize that many of our patients have e-mail and may find that using e-mail to communicate with our office is more convenient than trying to connect by telephone. However, because e-mail has some significant limitations, **we are now required by Indiana State Law** to have a written agreement with our patients as to how this mode of communication will be used. Please note the following:

1. Because the response time to your message cannot be guaranteed, **e-mail should not be used for urgent medical matters** that require more timely attention. <u>If you need an urgent reply, call our office at 317-842-4901 or Indiana toll free 800-818-3277.</u>

2. E-mail is not a substitute for a physical examination or the emergency room.

3. Sensitive matters should not be communicated by e-mail but rather by face-to-face encounter or by telephone. Keep in mind that e-mail sent and received through your place of employment may be accessed by your employer. We will not forward any e-mails containing protected health information to a third party without your express written consent.

4. E-mail is good for routine, straightforward questions and for information which does not require an office visit, such as appointment requests or cancellations, surgery scheduling details, record or refill requests, and billing matters. Please use the following e-mail addresses depending on the nature of your communication:
   - **appts**@midwestear.com
   - **billing**@midwestear.com
   - **records**@midwestear.com
   - **refills**@midwestear.com
   - **surgery**@midwestear.com

5. Format and content of your message:
   a. Type the patient's **full name and date of birth** in the SUBJECT box. Your message will not be answered without this information in the subject box.
   b. Include in your message **day and evening phone numbers where you may be contacted**
   c. **Do not send attachments**. Because of the threat of viruses, no attachments will be opened.

6. Your e-mail messages may be handled by an assistant, and all correspondence to and from us will be documented in your medical record.

7. We want to make sure you have received our e-mail message or reply. Please acknowledge all messages from us by using the "reply" feature on your e-mail program. If you do not receive a reply from us within 2 business days, please call our office as there may have been a malfunction in the transmittal of your message.

8. **Patient acknowledgement and agreement**: I have read and fully understand these guidelines for the use of e-mail to communicate with this practice. By my signature below, I give Midwest Ear Institute permission to utilize e-mail to communicate routine matters with me and will be responsible for advising you of any changes to my e-mail address.

PRINT Patient's Full Name____ Date of Birth___________________

PRINT E-mail address to be used for this purpose____

This address belongs to: ❒ Patient ❒ Spouse ❒ Mother ❒ Father ❒ Guardian

Signature ____ Date______________________

(Patient or responsible party)

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