



healthcurrent

Health Current Individual Opt Out Policy

I. Purpose

Individuals have the right to opt out of having their individually identifiable health information (IIHI) shared through the Health Current health information exchange (HIE). This Policy explains a Participant Healthcare Provider's and Health Current's obligations to implement this individual right.

II. Definitions

Unless otherwise defined in this Policy, all capitalized terms will have the same meaning as provided under HIPAA or in the Health Current Participation Agreement, all as amended from time to time.

Healthcare Provider includes hospitals, physicians and physician practices, behavioral health clinics, nursing homes, ambulatory surgical centers, home health agencies, hospice programs, outpatient rehabilitation facilities, imaging facilities, and pharmacies. Health Current may determine that other types of entities or persons meet the definition of a Healthcare Provider.

HIPAA means the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and its implementing regulations, all as amended from time to time.

Participant Healthcare Provider means a Healthcare Provider that has signed a Health Current Participation Agreement.

III. Applicability

This Policy applies to Health Current and Participant Healthcare Providers.

IV. Default Status

An individual's IIHI will be accessible through the HIE unless and until the individual opts out.

V. Opt Out Right and Implementation

An individual may choose not to allow his or her IIHI to be accessible through the HIE, as explained in the Health Current Notice of Health Information Practices.

Any individual may download the most current version of the Health Current Opt Out Form from Health Current's website: Patient Rights Process Toolkit.

If an individual chooses to opt out of having his or her IIHI accessible through the HIE, the individual should complete the Health Current Opt Out Form and return it to any Participant Healthcare Provider.

A Participant Healthcare Provider who receives an individual's completed Health Current Opt Out Form must promptly notify Health Current of the individual's decision to opt out of the HIE. A Participant Healthcare Provider must notify Health Current within fifteen (15) calendar days of the Healthcare Provider's receipt of the Health Current Opt Out Form from the individual.

A Participant Healthcare Provider may notify Health Current using the following methods:

1. Completing the bottom section of the Health Current Opt Out Form and securely faxing it to Health Current; or
2. Capturing the individual's decision electronically and sending the appropriate flag through an interface between the Participant Healthcare Provider's electronic systems and Health Current, through a mutually agreeable method.

Health Current will assign an opt out status to an individual within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the individual's opt out decision from a Participant Healthcare Provider.

If an individual chooses to opt out, his or her IIHI will not be accessible through the HIE, even in the event of a medical emergency. An individual's opt out status will not affect a Participant Healthcare Provider's or Health Current's use or disclosure of IIHI through means other than the HIE. An individual's opt out status will not prohibit Health Current from disclosing IIHI as required by law (such as obligations to perform mandatory public health reporting).

VI. Opt Back In and Implementation

An individual may choose to opt back in at any time. To opt back in, the individual must either:

1. Complete a Health Current Opt Back In Form and return it to a Participant Healthcare Provider; or
2. Indicate in writing an intent to opt back in, such as by signing an authorization or consent to disclose health information through the HIE.

A Participant Healthcare Provider will promptly notify Health Current of an individual's opt back in decision. A Participant Healthcare Provider must notify Health Current within fifteen (15) calendar days of the Participant Healthcare Provider's receipt of the Health Current Opt Back In Form. A Participant Healthcare Provider may notify Health Current using any of the methods provided for in Section V.

Health Current will implement an individual's opt back in decision within thirty (30) calendar days of Health Current receiving a completed Health Current Opt Back In Form.

Version: Board Approved January 22, 2019