



PHI is individually identifiable health information that relates to:

- Your past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition;
- The provision of health care to you; or
- Payment for your health care, and that identifies you or could reasonably be used to identify you.

PHI includes information such as your name, address, birth date, medical record number, account numbers, device identifiers, biometric identifiers, photos, full-face images, diagnosis and treatment information, clinical notes, prescriptions, lab results, imaging, bills and insurance information, and any other data tied to your identity and health.

**Additional Protections Under North Carolina Law**– In addition to the federal HIPAA requirements described in our Privacy Notice, North Carolina law provides additional protections for certain types of health information.

### **HIV/AIDS Information**

Information related to HIV infection or AIDS is strictly confidential. We may not disclose HIV-related information without your specific written consent, except:

- To healthcare providers directly involved in your care;
- As required by law (e.g., public health reporting);
- In other limited circumstances permitted by statute.

### **Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Records**

Mental health, developmental disability, and substance use disorder records are confidential. Disclosure generally requires your written consent, except:

- For treatment purposes;
- As required by law (e.g., court order);
- To protect against imminent harm;
- In other circumstances permitted by statute.

### **Minor Consent and Confidentiality**

Minors may consent to certain services (e.g., mental health, substance abuse, pregnancy care, STI treatment). When minors consent to these services, parents or guardians may not automatically have access to those records without the minor's permission, unless essential to the life or health of the minor or as otherwise required by law.



## Breach Notification

We must notify you promptly if your personal information or PHI is compromised in a data breach. In some cases, we must also notify the North Carolina Attorney General.

## North Carolina HealthConnex

NC HealthConnex is North Carolina's statewide Health Information Exchange (HIE). It's a secure electronic network that allows doctors, hospitals, and other healthcare providers to share patient health information. The goal is to create a single, comprehensive electronic health record for each patient by linking data from multiple providers.

You have the right to opt-out and prevent your information from being shared on HealthConnex between participating providers. If you submit an opt-out form to North Carolina Health Information Exchange Authority, access to any information related to you as a patient maintained in the NC HealthConnex system will be blocked to health care providers who attempt to look you up.

Opting out of NC HealthConnex will not adversely affect your treatment by your physician, and you cannot be discriminated against if you do decide to opt out. If you change your mind about participating in NC HealthConnex, you can opt back in at any time. If you wish to opt out, please see further instruction at the webpage linked below:

<https://hiea.nc.gov/patients/your-choices>

If you believe your rights have been violated you can make a report to the North Carolina Department of Justice Consumer Protection Division.

## North Carolina Attorney General's Office

Consumer Protection Division

Phone: (919) 716-6000

Website: <https://ncdoj.gov/protecting-consumers/>