



*The Heart of a  
Healthy Community*

# HIPAA Overview

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# HIPAA

- What is **HIPAA**?
  - **HIPAA** is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. This act was enacted in 1996 to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability to all PHI (public health information).

- The privacy rule contains standards for individuals' medical records and other personal health information.
- The rule also gives patients rights to their health information, such as the right to obtain a copy of their health records and request corrections if necessary.

- When conducting research here at ARMC HIPAA is a very important aspect
- All researchers must have an adequate plan on how they will protect patient data and patient identifiers
- The form on the right is just one example of a HIPAA form that is required to be submitted to medical records to obtain access to patients charts for research

## Application for Waiver of HIPAA Authorization

Principal Investigator: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Project Title: [Click here to enter text.](#)

### 1. Indicate what is being requested:

Waiver of HIPAA Authorization for the duration of a study (e.g. retrospective chart review)

Waiver of HIPAA Authorization for a portion of the study (e.g. telephone screening)

### 2. Provide a detailed list of the Protected Health Information (PHI) to be collected under this alternation/waiver

[Click here to enter text.](#)

### 3. Identify who will collect the PHI as well as who will have access to the PHI for purposes of research.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

### 4. To obtain approval for a waiver or alteration of the HIPAA privacy authorization, the research project must meet the federal regulatory criteria listed below. Please describe how your study meets these criteria.

a. There is an adequate plan to protect subject identifiers from improper use and disclosure.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

b. There is an adequate plan to destroy the identifiers at the earliest opportunity consistent with conduct of the research, unless there is a health or research justification for retaining the identifiers or such retention is otherwise required by law.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

c. Protected health information (PHI) will not be reused or disclosed to any other person or entity, except as required by law, for authorized oversight of the research study, or for other research for which use or disclosure of PHI would be permitted.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

d. The research could not practicably be conducted without the waiver (i.e. it is not practicable to obtain authorization directly from the research subject).

[Click here to enter text.](#)

e. The research could not practicably be conducted without access to and use of PHI.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Below is a list of objectives for HIPAA and why it is so important:
  - Makes health insurance more portable
  - Reduces healthcare fraud
  - Improves the efficiency of medical billing i.e. payments, claims, etc.
  - Protects personal medical information for the individual
  - Helps to gather statistical data about diseases