



 Winson Memorial Hospital We Care For You	<u>Effective Date</u>		
	July 2007		
	<u>Number</u> HP 010	<u>Replaces Policy</u> NEW	
<u>Title</u> Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information to Other Covered Entities	<u>Date Revised</u> July 2007	<u>Date Reviewed</u>	<u>Next Scheduled Review Date</u> July 2007
<u>Signature</u> _____	<u>Scope of Responsibility</u> HIPAA/Compliance		
Chief Privacy Officer			

Purpose: To facilitate compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (Privacy Standards), 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, and all Federal regulations and interpretive guidelines promulgated thereunder. To establish guidelines for sharing information for treatment, payment, and specified health care operations to other covered entities.

Policy: IMH may release Protected Health Information (PHI) to other covered health care providers for purposes of treatment, payment, or specified health care operations only as outlined in this policy.

Procedure: PHI may be disclosed for treatment, payment, or health care operations **only** as set forth below:

1. PHI may be disclosed **for treatment activities** of a health care provider;
2. PHI may be disclosed to another facility or a health care provider **for the payment activities** of the entity that receives the information;
3. PHI may be disclosed to another facility **for specified health care operations activities** of the entity that receives the information, if each entity either has or had a relationship with the individual who is the subject of the PHI being requested, the PHI pertains to such relationship, and the disclosure is:
 - a. For health care operations, which includes:
 - (1) Conducting quality assessment and improvement activities, including outcomes evaluation and development of clinical guidelines, provided that the obtaining of general knowledge is not the primary purpose of any studies resulting from such activities; population-based activities relating to improving health or reducing health care costs, protocol development, case management and care coordination, contacting of health care providers and patients with information about treatment alternatives; and related functions that do not include treatment;

Policy:

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- (2) Reviewing the competence or qualifications of health care professionals, evaluating practitioner and provider performance, health plan performance, conducting training programs in which students, trainees, or practitioners in areas of health care learn under supervision to practice or improve their skills as health care providers, training of non-health care professionals, accreditation, certification, licensing, or credentialing activities;
or
- b. For the purpose of health care fraud and abuse detection or compliance.