

Introduction to the Privacy Policies

These Privacy Policies have been prepared through a collaborative effort across the Regional Health and Social Services Authorities and the Department. They represent a first step in preparing system-wide operational procedures for the EMR and the IEHR.

The Framework and the Privacy Policies

- Apply to the Regional Health and Social Services Authorities and the Department of Health and Social Services
- Apply to medical records
 - For the purposes of these policies, a medical record is a record, which contains information about a patient's medical symptoms, medical diagnosis, and medical treatment **and** is needed routinely by medical care providers, such as physicians, nurses, Nurse Practitioners and midwives for the provision of medical care.
 - For the purposes of these policies, programs (such as NWT Healthcare Plan registration and administration, Physician Services, Nursing Services at NWT Health Centres, Hospital Services) associated with the administration of the *Medical Care Act* and some aspects of *Hospital Insurance and Health and Social Services Administration Act* have been considered.
 - For the purposes of these policies, the records of Mental Health services provided at a Regional Health and Social Services Authority clinic by a physician or a nurse is a medical record. The records of Mental Health services provided through non-medical Authority Wellness or Addictions program or services or an NGO Mental Health program or service are not considered to be medical records for the purposes of these policies.
- These policies do not apply to records collected under authorization of other laws and authorized services, such as:
 - The collection of information under the Public Health Act
 - Child and Family Services programs and services,
 - Adoptions,
 - Public Guardian or
 - Human Resources,
 - Professional Licensing
 - Vital Statistics,
 - Long Term Care, and
 - Southern Placements

This is not a complete list.
- There may be practices and policies associated with these records, that are similar to these policies, but these programs and services have not been considered during the preparation of these privacy policies.