

MINISTERIAL DIRECTIVE

Privacy Policies

2009-01

1. Background

The Privacy Policies represent a first step in preparing system-wide operational procedures for the electronic medical record (EMR) and the interoperable electronic health record (IEHR). The documents have been prepared through a collaborative effort across the Regional Health and Social Services Authorities and the Department.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this directive is to require all Regional Health and Social Services Authorities and the Department to apply and implement the Privacy Policies.

3. Definitions

Regional Health and Social Services Authorities means the Boards of Management established under section 10 of the *Hospital Insurance and Health and Social Services Administration Act*.

The Privacy Policies refer to the policies developed in preparation for the rollout of the EMR and IEHR systems, specifically the policies entitled:

- Collection of Personal Information to Provide Medical Care;
- Disclosure of Personal Health Information collected in Medical Records;
- Right of Access;
- Information Disclosure Agreements and Protocols;
- Disclosure for Research;
- Privacy Breach Response;
- Disclosure with Consent;
- Provision of Notice;
- Appropriate Use of Personal Information;
- Health Information in Electronic Environments; and
- Computerized Medical Records.

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4. Exceptions and Restrictions

These policies do not apply to records related to the following:

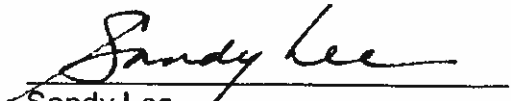
- The collection of information under the Public Health Act;
- Child and Family Services programs and services;
- Adoptions;
- Public Guardian;
- Non-medical Authority Wellness and Addictions programs and services;
- NGO mental health programs and services;
- Human Resources;
- Professional Licensing;
- Vital Statistics;
- Long Term Care; and
- Southern Placements.

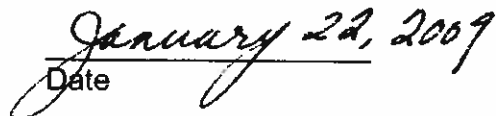
5. Amendment

This Directive may be amended in writing by the Minister from time to time.

6. Effective Date

This Directive comes into effect on the date of signing.


Sandy Lee
Minister of Health and Social Services


Date