The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires us to account for certain disclosures of outpatients’ protected health information (PHI).

Certain disclosures are allowed and do not require tracking. These disclosures are for treatment, payment, and health care operations.

**Treatment** – Care of the patient (physician to physician, coordinating labs, x-rays or prescriptions, discharge planning, etc.)

**Payment** – eligibility, billing, authorization, registration

**Health Care Operations** – credentialing, Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) performance improvement, patient satisfaction, malpractice, licensure and accreditation

In addition, these disclosures are allowed and do not need to be tracked:

- Providing information to the patient (appointment notices and reminders, treatment options or alternatives, health related benefits and services)
- Disclosures authorized by patient (signed authorization form)
- Disclosures in Hospital Directory
- Disclosures to individuals involved in your care or payment for your care
- Disclosures due to disaster-relief efforts
- Disclosures due to National Security and Intelligence activities (CIA, FBI)
- Disclosures to Correctional Institutions (Inmates)
- Incidental disclosures (protected communication between treating health care providers incidentally overheard by others not associated with the care of the patient (visitor, custodian, another patient))
Disclosures that **MUST BE TRACKED:**

- Disclosures to Business Associates if not for treatment, payment or health care operations
- Disclosures for public health activities (tracking FDA devices, State mandated Cancer Registry)
- Disclosures as required by law
- Disclosures to avert a serious threat to health and safety
- Disclosures to protect victims of abuse, neglect or domestic violence
- Disclosures for health oversight activities authorized by law (professional licensure and disciplinary actions)
- Disclosures for law enforcement purposes (reporting gunshot wounds or stabbing wounds, reporting crimes, providing information to identify and locate suspects, fugitives or missing persons)
- Disclosures to coroner, medical examiners and funeral directors
- Disclosures for research with no authorization (waiver of authorization, work preparatory to research)
- Disclosures regarding Military and Veterans if directed to do so by Federal Register
- Disclosures for Workers Compensation
- Disclosures for protected services for the President and others
- Disclosures for organ and tissue donation
- Disclosures due to judicial and administrative proceedings (subpoena, lawsuits)
- Disclosures not allowed by HIPAA (violations)

**If in doubt contact the Privacy Officer at (951) 827-4672 or e-mail james.herron@ucr.edu**