



Kidney Connection: A Patient Peer Mentoring Program Confidentiality Agreement

What is HIPAA?

- The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is a 1996 federal law.
- It protects the privacy of patient health information.
- It requires patients to sign formal consent forms to have their information shared. Patient health information can be shared for healthcare purposes only.
- It sets rules for storing and sharing health information.

Safeguarding confidential information is an obligation for all peer mentoring program participants.

What am I allowed to do with this information?

You must protect the privacy of your peer. You should only use this information in your role as a peer mentor. Your facility can receive serious penalties if HIPAA rules are violated.

Here are rules you must follow.

- Do NOT share protected health information (PHI) with anyone else. Even if you are sharing your day with others, you cannot tell them the name of a peer that you are mentoring.
- Do NOT share protected health information (PHI) with other patients, with family and friends of patients, or with your family and friends.
- NEVER leave written protected health information (PHI) anywhere that another person can see it. Keep this information inside a folder, so no one else can read it.
- Do NOT ask for more protected health information (PHI) than you need to help with your peer's kidney treatment choices.

I understand and acknowledge that:

1. I will always protect the privacy and confidentiality of my peer mentor/mentee including during and after my participation in the Kidney Connection Patient Peer Mentoring Program.
2. Inappropriate access and unauthorized release of a peer mentor/mentee's private or confidential information may result in dismissal from the program.

Mentor Signature

Date

Mentee Signature

Date