

State of Nebraska Health Information Technology Board PDMP Interstate Data Sharing Policy

Policy: State of Nebraska Health Information Technology Board PDMP Interstate Data Sharing Policy		Accountability: Systems Support Manager / CyncHealth Staff / Vendors:	
Effective Date:	Review Date:	Referenced Procedures: None	
Intended Audience: All CyncHealth staff and vendors working on behalf of CyncHealth.			
Approval:			
Title: HIT Board			

STATEMENT

In accordance with the standards set forth under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”) as well as federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements (hereafter referred to as “Regulatory Requirements”), CyncHealth is committed to ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of protected health information and electronic protected health information (PHI/ePHI), as well as any sensitive and confidential data it creates, receives, maintains, and/or transmits. For the purposes of this policy, PHI, ePHI and sensitive and confidential data shall be referred to herein as “Covered Information.”

DEFINITIONS

- **Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI):** Information that is “individually identifiable health information” and is created, received, maintained, or transmitted in any electronic form or medium.
- **Health Information Technology Board (HIT Board):** A seventeen-member board of healthcare professionals appointed by the Governor of Nebraska to oversee the State of Nebraska Health Information Exchange and the State of Nebraska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP).
- **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP):** The system in Nebraska established as a standalone medication query platform that collects all prescriptions dispensed from pharmacies and other dispensers, established through Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454.
- **Protected Health Information (PHI):** Information that is “individually identifiable health information” and is created, received, maintained, or transmitted in any form or medium.

PURPOSE

Interstate data sharing with other states is beneficial to enhancing patient care and informed decision making for clinicians caring for Nebraska residents. The collaboration of dispensed medication information is impactful for patients who spend time traveling and live in border communities. The sharing of prescription medications provides a more comprehensive view of the patient which allows providers to make more informed clinical decisions. In addition, providers are able to identify possible misuse or abuse potential across state lines resulting in decreased diversion and increased patient safety. Interstate data sharing contributes to improving the overall wellness of Nebraska residents.

The purpose of this policy is to document the State of Nebraska HIT Board's responsibilities surrounding Nebraska PDMP interstate data sharing. The objective is to provide clarity surrounding definitions and the relationships between the State of Nebraska HIT Board and CyncHealth. This policy seeks to establish parameters in compliance with Regulatory Requirements related to proper sharing of PDMP data by ensuring CyncHealth staff are aware of the requirements and expectations surrounding the State of Nebraska HIT Board and PDMP data requests.

Additionally, the purpose of this policy is for the care and treatment of patients as outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 Sec. 1.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This policy covers Nebraska PDMP interstate data sharing requests, which are overseen by the State of Nebraska HIT Board.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The State of Nebraska HIT Board with the support of CyncHealth Chief Legal Counsel will be responsible for the enforcement, interpretation, management, review, and education of this policy. Likewise, CyncHealth staff will be responsible for acknowledgement and adherence to this policy.

POLICY

Interstate Data Sharing

Requests for PDMP data may be made to CyncHealth from outside entities for care and treatment of patients as outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 Sec. (1) and pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 Sec. 7, which states:

If the requesting entity receiving the prescription drug information has privacy protections at least as restrictive as those set forth in this section and has implemented and maintains the minimum safeguards required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 Sec. 6, CyncHealth may release the prescription drug information and any other data collected pursuant to this section to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454.

Any release made under this policy must comply with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-2454 Sec. 1, 6, and 7.

COMPLIANCE

CyncHealth staff will be required to comply with all information security policies and procedures as a condition of employment or contract with CyncHealth. CyncHealth staff who fail to abide by the requirements outlined in the HIT Board PDMP Data Requests Policy and Procedures will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment or contract.

ANNUAL REVIEW

Date of implementations:		Date of updates: