

HIPAA and Patient Privacy

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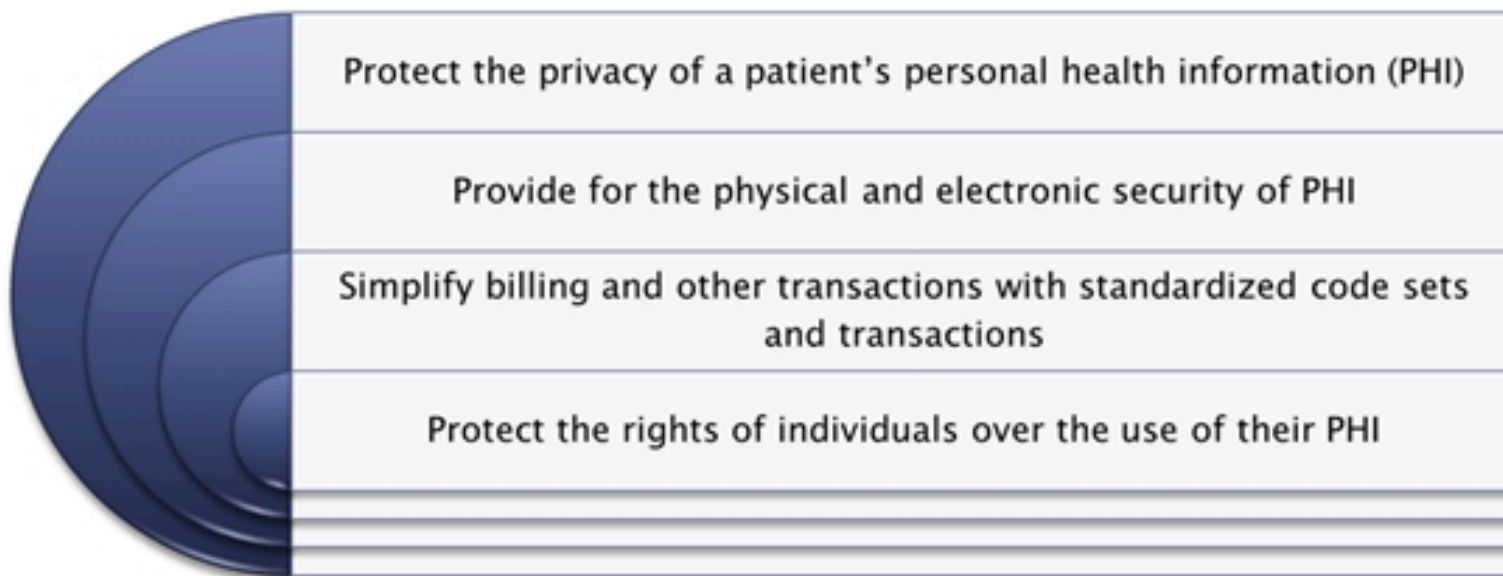
What Providers Need to Know



Welcome to the HIPAA and Patient Privacy presentation. At the end of the presentation go back to the orientation website to continue with the remaining orientation modules.

HIPAA is a Federal law enacted to:

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HIPAA=Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act



HIPAA is a federal law enacted to protect the privacy of a patient's personal health information. This law provides for the security of PHI, simplifies various transactions with standardized code sets, and protects individual's rights over the use of their personal health information.

Protected Health Information (PHI) is:

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Individually
identifiable
health
information,
such as

- Name
- Social Security Number
- Demographic Information

Healthcare providers' obligations to protect PHI includes all formats: Written, electronic, and oral communication



PHI is any health information that is individually identifiable such as Name, Social security number, and demographic information Our obligations to protect PHI include written, electronic, and oral communications.

Health Care Providers

Health Care providers must make reasonable efforts to protect the privacy and dignity of all patients.

- Avoid public areas when discussing patient care
- When talking to patients, draw curtains, and speak softly so as not to be overheard
- You are permitted to discuss a patient in a public area if necessary, but you cannot use the patient's name
- Associates are not permitted to access their own, relative's or friend's PHI



We must make reasonable efforts to protect the privacy and dignity of all patients. Remember to avoid public areas when discussing patient care. If you happen to be in a public area and must discuss a patient, do not use the patient's name. And remember that associates are not permitted to access their own, a relative's, or a friend's PHI.

Clinical Rounds Conducted in Patient Care Areas:

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Health care providers may engage in discussions with other health care providers to determine the care plan for a specific patient

The use or disclosure of PHI is permitted for the purpose of treatment

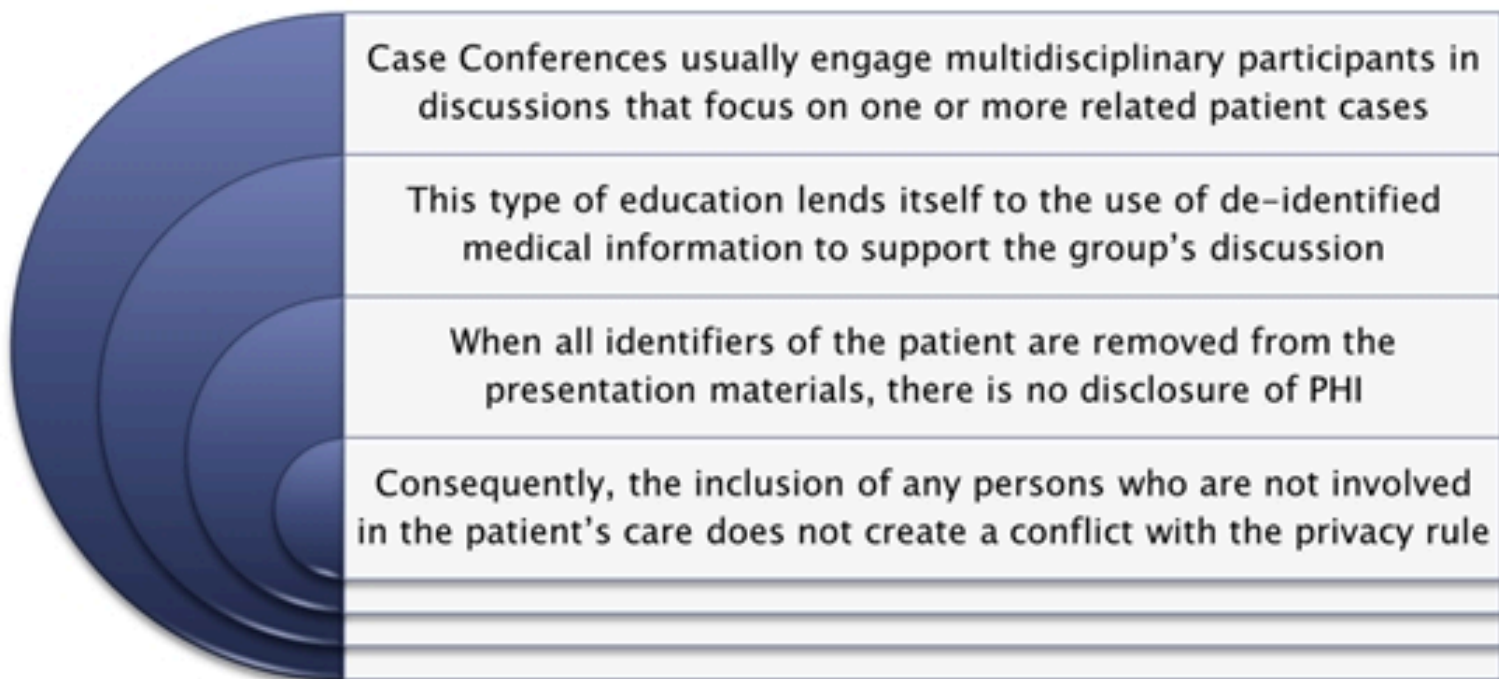
As a general rule, on a case by case basis, health care providers must decide how much PHI should be released in order to balance the patient's right to privacy while ensuring the proper clinical care of the patient



Here are some pointers regarding clinical rounds that are conducted in patient care areas. I'll give you a moment to read through them.

Case Conferences/Lecture Presentations:

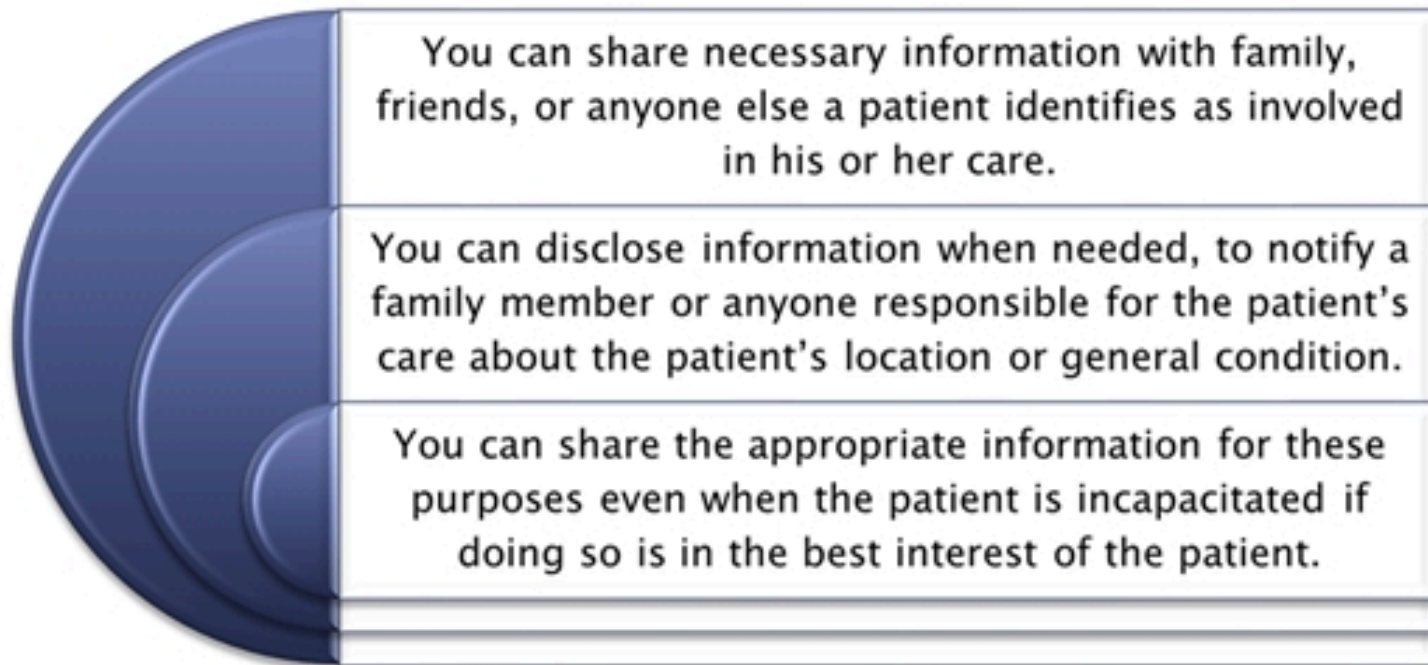
Case Conferences/Lecture Presentations:



Many of us are involved in case conferences and lecture presentations which involve multidisciplinary participants in discussions of patient cases. As long as all patient identifiers are removed from the presentation or case conference there is no disclosure of PHI or conflict with the privacy rule.

With the patient's permission

With the patient's permission:



Reference: www.hhs.gov



With the patient's permission you can share necessary information those family or friends the patient designates. When needed, you can disclose the patient's location or general condition to a family member or responsible party. And even if the patient is incapacitated, you can share appropriate information as long as it is in the best interest of the patient.

Privacy Rule

Understanding HIPAA Privacy

The Privacy Rule is
not anti-electronic

You can communicate with patients, providers, and others by email, telephone, or facsimile, with the implementation of appropriate safeguards to protect patient privacy.


Reference: www.hhs.gov



Once appropriate safeguards are implemented, you can communicate with patients or other providers, by email, phone or fax.

The Security Rule

Understanding HIPAA Security



The Security Rule requires covered entities to maintain reasonable and appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards for protecting e-PHI

Reference: www.hhs.gov



The Security rule requires covered entities to maintain reasonable and appropriate safeguards for protecting electronic PHI.

Security Safeguards

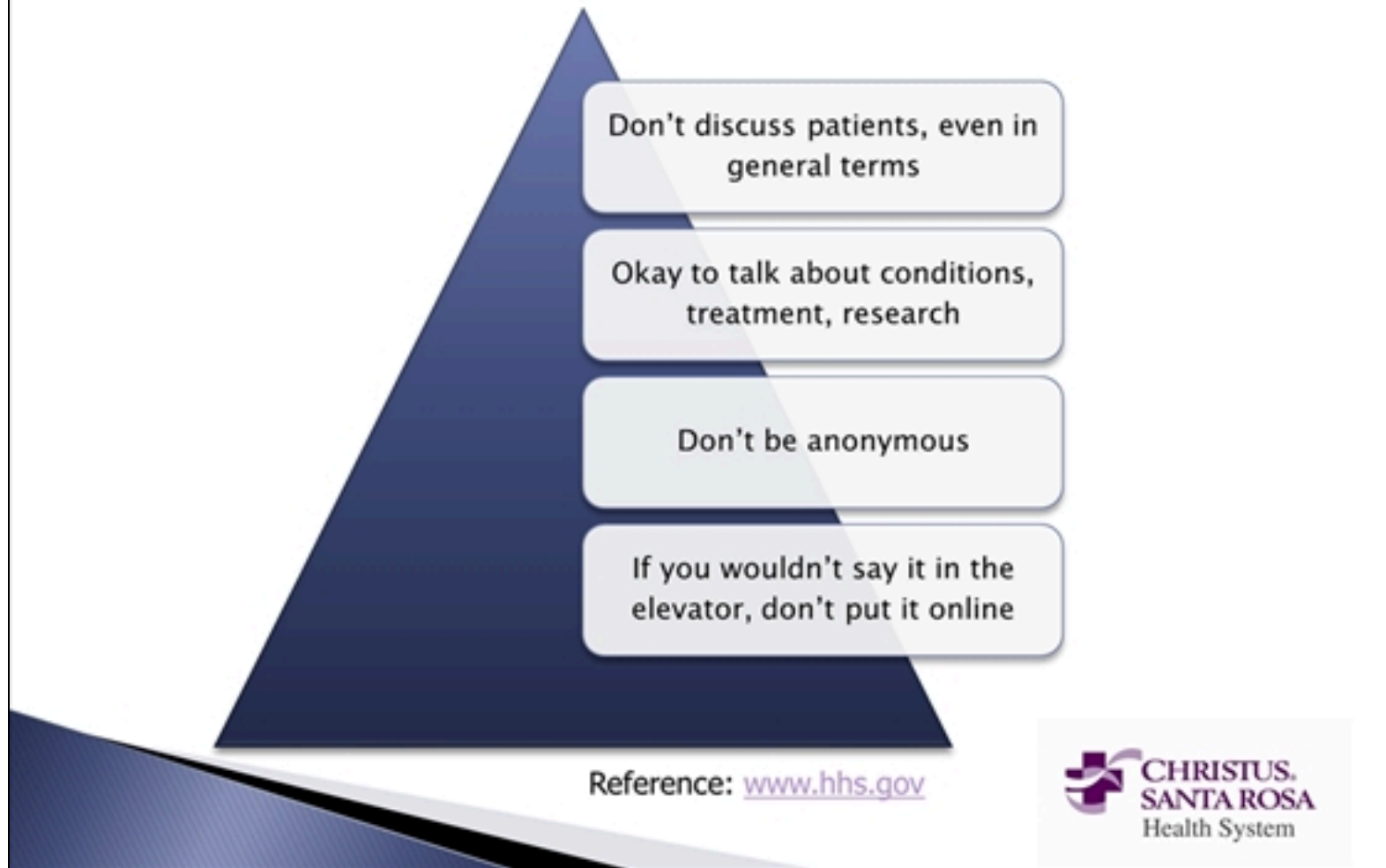
Security Safeguards:



You must not share your passwords. It is important to secure workstations. Avoid sending any confidential information via email or text, and use internet firewalls and virus protection as needed.

Social Media

HIPAA and Social Media



Never discuss patients on social media, even in general terms. You can talk about general conditions and treatments, but don't do it anonymously. And remember, if you don't want everybody to know something, don't put it online.

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Thank you for completing this online module.

Please return to the orientation website to complete the remaining required online elements.

