



What is Protected Health Information (PHI)?

PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION, OR PHI, is individually identifiable information, including demographic information created or received by Community Health Center Network, health plan, health care provider, public health authority or health care clearinghouse. It can include the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; health care services provided; prescription drug information; payment for the provision of health care services provided to an individual; or a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual.

PHI CAN BE IN ANY FORM:

Oral or Spoken	Electronic (referred as to ePHI)	Written
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone appointment reminder • Name called in the waiting room • Hallway or elevator conversations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laptop or desktop • Hand-held devices • Flash drives • Electronic claims records • Digital images • E-mail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper medical records • Paper bills • Paper claims

ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING IDENTIFIERS IS CONSIDERED PHI:

Personal Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name (individual, individual's family members or household members, individual's employer) • Address (street, city, state, ZIP code) • Birth date • Telephone number • Fax number • E-mail address • Social Security number (SSN) • Health plan beneficiary number/s • Deceased date • Full-face photographic images or any comparable unique physical characteristics • Certificate or license numbers, such as professional license
Medical Record Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission date Discharge date • Medical record or health record number • Biometric identifiers, including finger and voice prints
DMV Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver's license and other vehicle identifiers, including license number, license plate number, and vehicle ID
Banking & Credit Card Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Account numbers – including credit card numbers and banking account numbers • Any other financial identifiers related to the payment for health care
Unique Characteristic(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other unique identifying number or characteristic • Device numbers • URLs or Internet protocol (IP) addresses