

PATIENT AUTHORIZED SERVICES

BOSTON
UNIVERSITY



Dear Colleagues,

When patients sign a HIPAA Authorization – typically for education, publication, or research purposes – we must remember to only use their data in the context that was authorized. Guidance on education and research authorizations are provided below.

Generally, HIPAA Components may only use HIPAA compliant technology, applications, and service providers (“services”).

<http://www.bumc.bu.edu/it/infosec/researchcompliance/>

Services that do not comply with HIPAA may only be used when patients sign an authorization that complies with 45 C.F.R. Section 164.508. For example, the authorization must clearly inform patients that their data is no longer protected by HIPAA. You can find HIPAA authorizations here:

<http://www.bu.edu/hipaa/forms-for-health-care-providers/>

What services may be used when a patient signs an education authorization?

When a patient signs an education authorization, their health information may be used in the classroom and delivered through teaching-related technologies, such as Blackboard, Zoom, Kaltura, Echo360, and BU Google Drive. Services not considered part of the education environment, such as social media sites, may not be used.

What services may be used when a patient signs a research authorization?

When patients sign a research authorization, the research team must adhere to what is in the human subject consent document. Consent

documents typically promise to use BU managed computers and services: <http://www.bumc.bu.edu/it/infosec/researchcompliance/>

Please do your part and remember to only use services that align with patient authorization. Reach out with any questions to hipaa@bu.edu.

Sincerely,

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