

Email: (Patient Focused)

Subject Line: Important Changes to Privacy Rules for Your Health Information – Rochester RHIO

Dear _____,

By March 31, 2019, Rochester RHIO will include specially protected substance use and behavioral health care data (SAMHSA, Part 2) in its health information exchange, along with other healthcare records. Making this information available will help provide patient care teams with a more complete picture of a patient's health.

What is SAMHSA, Part 2 data?

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is a federal agency under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. **SAMHSA, or Part 2, data** is a term that applies to any service received at a federally-assisted facility, provider, or clinic for the treatment of a substance use disorder or behavioral health care.

What does this mean for me?

- Patients give written consent for each provider they wish to have access to their health information through Rochester RHIO; in some instances, this consent may provide access across an entire health or hospital system (if that system is deemed a single HIPAA-covered entity).
- If you have signed a consent form, providers can access your records through Rochester RHIO and they can view your health information, including specially protected Part 2 substance use and behavioral health care data.
- Patients have control over which providers are able to view their data. If a patient wishes to know which providers they've consented to, patients may contact the Rochester RHIO Support Center to request an audit.
- Patients have the option to sign a new consent form and affirm or decline consent to any provider. For more information on consent choices, go to rochesterhio.org.

Questions about Part 2 data? Contact the Rochester RHIO Support Center at (877) 865-7446, or visit rochesterrhio.org for more information.

Newsletter article (Short Version) (Patient-Focused)

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