

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT HIPAA Privacy Rule and Reproductive Health PHI

Dear Requestor,

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has issued a HIPAA Privacy Final Rule to support Reproductive Health PHI (Protected Health Information) privacy and use, effective December 23, 2024. To be compliant with this mandate, an attestation must be completed and is required when this information may be used for the following reasons:

- Health Oversight Activities include requests from auditors, legal/regulatory compliance oversight. Does not include public health reporting or infection control disease reporting.
- **Judicial and Administrative Proceedings** include court and tribunal orders and subpoenas requests.
- **Law Enforcement Purposes** include police, sheriff, other law enforcement agencies requests, search warrants, gunshot wound or suspected abuse reporting.
- Disclosures to Coroners and Medical Examiners includes requests from coroners and medical examiners.

By signing the attestation, you are verifying that you are not requesting PHI for a prohibited purpose as listed below and acknowledge that criminal penalties may apply if untrue.

- (1) To conduct a criminal, civil, or administrative investigation into any person for the mere act of seeking, obtaining, providing, or facilitating lawful reproductive health care.
- (2) To impose criminal, civil, or administrative liability on any person for the mere act of seeking, obtaining, providing, or facilitating lawful reproductive health care.
- (3) To identify any person for any purpose described in (1) or (2).

You may not add content that is not required or combine the attestation with another document except where another document is needed to support your statement that the requested disclosure is not for a prohibited purpose.

Drexel Medicine Health Information Management (HIM) department will not release records until the attestation has been completed in full.

Please contact the HIM Department by email <u>HIMrequests@drexel.edu</u> or call 215-255-7321 with questions.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Drexel Medicine Health Information Management Department