
PARTNERSHIP TO AMEND 42 CFR PART 2

A COALITION OF OVER 40 HEALTH CARE STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTED TO ALIGNING 42 CFR PART 2 (PART 2) WITH HIPAA TO ALLOW APPROPRIATE ACCESS TO PATIENT INFORMATION THAT IS ESSENTIAL FOR PROVIDING WHOLE-PERSON CARE.

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
United States House of Representatives
1113 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
United States House of Representatives
1111 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Mullin and Blumenauer:

The undersigned members of the Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 (Partnership) and additional stakeholder organizations applaud your leadership on the issue of substance use disorder privacy records. We strongly support the Overdose Prevention and Patient Safety (OPPS) Act, H.R. 6082, which will align 42 CFR Part 2 (Part 2) with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for the purposes of health care treatment, payment, and operations (TPO). The Partnership is pleased that the OPPS Act was voted out of the Committee on Energy and Commerce with a bipartisan vote.

The Partnership is a coalition of more than 40 organizations representing stakeholders across the health care spectrum committed to aligning Part 2 with HIPAA to allow appropriate access to patient information that is essential for providing whole-person care.

We are pleased that the bill aligns Part 2 with HIPAA's consent requirements for the purposes of TPO, which will allow for the appropriate sharing of substance use disorder records, among covered entities, to ensure persons with opioid use disorder and other substance use disorders receive the integrated care they need. Additionally, as we do not want patients with substance use disorders to be made vulnerable as a result of seeking treatment for addiction, this legislation strengthens protections and limits the number of institutions that have access to patient records.

Thank you both for your leadership on this issue and we look forward to working with you on helping to address the opioid crisis by passing this important bipartisan legislation on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 Members

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy
American Association on Health and Disability
American Health Information Management Association
American Hospital Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Society of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Anesthesiologists
America's Essential Hospitals

America's Health Insurance Plans
AMGA
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare
Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness
Association for Community Affiliated Plans
BlueCross BlueShield Association
Catholic Health Association of the U.S.
Centerstone
Confidentiality Coalition
Employee Assistance Professionals Association
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice
Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation
Health IT Now
Healthcare Leadership Council
The Joint Commission
InfoMC
Medicaid Health Plans of America
Mental Health America
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association for Behavioral Healthcare
National Association of ACOs
National Association of Counties (NACo)
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)
Netsmart
OCHIN
Otsuka
Pharmaceutical Care Management Association
Premier Healthcare Alliance

Additional Stakeholder Organizations

ACO Health Partners
Aetna
AMITA Health
Anthem, Inc.
Ascension Health
Avera Health
Banner Health
Baptist Healthcare System
Beacon Health Options
Bon Secours Health System, Inc.
CareSource
Catholic Health Initiatives
Centene Corporation
Change Healthcare
Cigna
College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME)
Excellus BlueCross BlueShield

Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity Sponsored Ministries, Inc.
Greater New York Hospital Association
Henry Ford Health System
Howe Home Designers
Johns Hopkins Medicine
Kern Health Systems
Leidos
Lycoming County
Magellan Health
Marshfield Clinic Health System
Mental Health America of Indiana
Mosaic Life Care
NAMI
NAMI DC
NAMI Delaware
NAMI Greene County Tennessee
NAMI Helena
NAMI of Howard County, MD
NAMI Jefferson County, Washington
NAMI Kaufman County
NAMI Kershaw County
NAMI Lewistown
NAMI Lexington
NAMI of the Pee Dee (South Carolina)
NAMI Piedmont Tri-County
NAMI Sarasota County
NAMI South Suburbs of Chicago
NAMI Sussex, Inc.
NAMI Temple Area
NAMI Utah
NAMI Valley of the Sun
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Texas
National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers
New Directions Behavioral Health
OPEN MINDS
Optum
PerformCare
Providence St. Joseph Health
SCAN Health Plan
SSM Health
Texas Health Resources
The Center for Health Affairs/Northeast Ohio Hospital Opioid Consortium
The MetroHealth System
Trinity Health
University of Tennessee Medical Center
Valley Health System
Vizient
Wayne Meriwether