

# HIPAA

## MONTHLY ALERT

November 2017

In compliance with federal regulations that mandate all Liberty employed and subcontracted staff be informed and understand some of HIPAA's permitted uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information (PHI), Liberty's Corporate Compliance Department has issued the following informational alert regarding **HIPAA acceptable uses and disclosures of PHI** for the month of November.

**Permitted Uses and Disclosures of PHI. "The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) governs how Liberty protects and secures PHI" but these regulations also provide circumstances in which Liberty, is able to use and disclose PHI for certain activities including for treatment and health care operations. The following are several examples of such Liberty QualityCare® performance improvement and quality assessment activities:**

1. **Patient Safety** – Conducting activities like Sentinel Event reporting.
2. **Population-based** – Conducting activities to improve health outcomes and/or health care costs.
3. **Case Management** – Care coordination activities including care planning.
4. **Evaluation of Performance** – Performance evaluation activities for health care providers.
5. **Corporate Compliance Programs** – Activities that support the reduction of illegal, unethical, and / or immoral behavior including fraud and abuse detection.

It's important to remember **"Need to Know, Minimum Necessary"**.

*Reference:* <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/privacy/guidance/permitted-uses/index.html>

Please look next month's HIPAA Alert delivered through your email.  
Should you have any questions regarding this alert please contact Judith Ann Shields  
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