

### **Privacy and Confidentiality Policy**

It is the policy of The doctors Company to maintain the privacy of patients' Protected Health Information (PHI) and to abide by all state and federal privacy laws (including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)).

Of specific concern are situations where PHI might appear in a presenter's written educational materials or audio/visual materials. For example, information attributable to a specific patient might be included in a written case study or verbal discussion of a case or might appear in a visual presentation of an electronic medical record. Accordingly, PHI may not be present in any aspect of an educational presentation without a patient's written authorization (and such authorization must be HIPAA compliant after April 14, 2003).

Prior to presenting the speaker/faculty must represent and warrant that they have HIPAA-compliant authorization for any PHI in the presentation or presentation materials or that they acquired such protected health information from a source that (a) obtained a HIPAA-compliant authorization which authorizes Presenter's use of PHI during the presentation; or (b) was not under a legal obligation to maintain the patient's confidentiality.



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