

Summary of the Health Information Privacy Code Policy v12.0



Summary

Objective

The Health Information Privacy Code 2020 (the Code) applies specific rules to organisations acting as health agencies to ensure that individual privacy is protected. The Code contains 13 Health Information Privacy Rules and works in conjunction with the Privacy Act 2020. It recognises that health information is special and needs to be treated differently as it:

- is considered confidential
- can be sensitive
- may have ongoing use.

With regard to the collection, use, storage and disclosure of health information the 13 Health Information Privacy Rules take the place of the 13 Information Privacy Principles of the Privacy Act 2020 and describe how the code is put into practice.

As of 1 December 2020, the new Privacy Act will come into effect. Please contact us if this page has not been updated by December 2020.

Owner

[Name withheld]

Expert

Policy

1.0 Rules

- a** You must handle health information in particular ways.

You must make sure you know, understand and comply with the health information privacy rules as there may be financial or other consequences for breaching them.

Complaints regarding breaches of these rules can be made to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and, if necessary, to the Human Rights Review Tribunal.

2.0 The 13 Health Information Privacy Rules in brief

- a**
1. Only collect health information if you really need it
 2. Get it straight from the people concerned
 3. Tell them what you're going to do with it
 4. Be considerate when you're collecting it
 5. Take care of it once you've got it
 6. People can see their health information if they want to
 7. They can correct it if it's wrong
 8. Make sure health information is correct, up-to-date, complete, relevant, and not misleading, before you use it
 9. Get rid of it when you're done with it
 10. Use it for the purpose you got it
 11. Only disclose it if you have a good reason
 12. Only disclose it overseas if the recipient is subject to NZ's privacy law or a comparable overseas law.
 13. Only assign unique identifiers where permitted.

For a full description of these rules, see Complete health information privacy rules.



Health Information Privacy Code 2020

<https://www.privacy.org.nz/privacy-act-2020/codes-of-practice/hipc2020/>