SHARING IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK!

What's a SHIG?

The SHIG provides general guidance and real-life scenarios to clarify federal and state laws related to sharing of health and social services information for the purpose of coordinating care to improve health outcomes.

OK, tell me more!

The SHIG gives health and social service providers the knowledge and confidence they need to share patient/client information that supports coordinated and integrated care and services. It clarifies federal and state laws by translating them into non-legal and non-technical language for a general audience. This clarity empowers appropriate data sharing among health and social service providers, ultimately leading to better care integration and health outcomes while protecting privacy.

Talking Points

- Patients see improved outcomes and improved overall satisfaction when health information is safely and legally shared among health care and service providers.
- Organizations see improved efficiency and reduced costs when health information is safely and legally shared among providers.
- In the current environment, providers can be reluctant to share information– even when it is legal – because of confusion over the law and relevant statutes and regulations.
- The SHIG represents the State of California's authoritative (but non-binding) guidance on when, where, and why personal information can and should be exchanged.
- The SHIG grew out of comprehensive research, drawing from a broad group of stakeholders to get a clear understanding of the problems different groups were facing in the field.
- The SHIG also incorporated feedback from patient and privacy advocacy organizations.
- The SHIG is grounded firmly in reality. CalOHII has a clear understanding of the problems that need solutions. It addresses these issues and does not expend resources addressing issues that are not real problems.
- The SHIG utilizes scenarios derived from real user stories to achieve a notable reduction in complexity and confusion, allowing ordinary users to understand how laws and statutes apply to their actual situations.
- The SHIG is an ongoing process, supporting a continuing dialogue on how to improve appropriate sharing of health information.

Interested?

Learn more at https://www.chhs.ca.gov/ohii/shig/

CHHS California Health & Human Services Agency

CalOHII State of California Office of Health Information Integrity