

De-identification Requirements for Public Medical Information

Identifiers of an individual (including relatives, employers, or household members) to be removed:

1. **Names**
2. **All geographic subdivisions smaller than a state**, including street address, city, county, precinct, ZIP code, and their equivalent geocodes, except for the initial three digits of the ZIP code if, the geographic unit formed by combining all ZIP codes with the same three initial digits contains more than 20,000 people; and the initial three digits of a ZIP code for all geographic units containing 20,000 or less is changed to 000.
3. **All elements of dates (except year) for dates that are directly related to an individual**, including birth date, admission date, discharge date, death date, and all ages over 89 and all elements of dates (including year) indicative of such age, except that such ages and elements may be aggregated into a single category of age 90 or older
4. **Telephone numbers**
5. **Fax numbers**
6. **Email addresses**
7. **Social security numbers**
8. **Medical record numbers**
9. **Health plan beneficiary numbers**
10. **Account numbers**
11. **Certificate/license numbers**
12. **Vehicle identifiers and serial numbers, including license plate numbers**
13. **Device identifiers and serial numbers**
14. **Web Universal Resource Locators (URLs)**
15. **Internet Protocol (IP) addresses**
16. **Biometric identifiers, including finger and voice prints**
17. **Full-face photographs and any comparable images**
18. **Any other unique identifying number, characteristic, or code**, except as permitted by item 3 above.