



Background

Under the *Health Information Act* (HIA) custodians have a duty to notify patients about the purpose of collecting their health information.

The HIA also requires that providers consider wishes their patients express about how much of their health information is made available to CII/CPAR. Under CII/CPAR, “making available” means both:

- a) making patients’ information available to other health care providers via Alberta Netcare for treatment and care, and;
- b) making health information available to Alberta Health to be used for quality improvement, monitoring, audit, evaluation, reporting, planning and resource allocation, health system management, policy development and public health surveillance.

Custodians must consider their patients expressed wishes, along with any other factor they consider to be important, before making health information available to CII/CPAR.

If you decide CII/CPAR is the right fit for you and your patients, you must inform patients of this decision by displaying Health Information Collection Notices prominently in your clinic.

[Health Collection Notice](#)

[CII Patient Brochure](#)

Script

Primary Care Providers:

I am participating in CII/CPAR to make the information I have about my patients available to other health providers involved in their care. This decision will lead to improved healthcare for all my patients. For example, if you are admitted to the ER or the hospital, our clinic will be notified and can offer the appropriate follow-up.

Moreover, my clinic’s participation in CII will allow Alberta Health to better understand how healthcare is delivered through community physician clinics, and how improvements can be made to the healthcare system province-wide.

Specialist Physicians:

[See above]

I make my consult reports available to other healthcare providers through Alberta Netcare for the aforementioned purposes.

Your patient may express concerns about how much health information will be made available via CII/CPAR.

Listen patiently to the patient’s concerns. You are not obliged to follow the patient’s expressed wish or direction regarding how much health information to make available to CII. However, you must:

- Properly consider any wishes the patient expressed about how much information you intend to make available
- Use your professional judgment

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- Weigh the patient's concern with any other important factors, such as patient safety, legal requirements, professional college guidance or other
 - Make a decision and tell the patient what your decision is
 - Document your decision
 - Use confidentiality flags as needed in your EMR to restrict access to some or all of a patient's health information
 - Convey all information in a clear manner to your patients, e.g.,

To restrict access to some information about you in my Electronic Medical Record (EMR), I have used a confidentiality flag. This flag ensures the information in question will not be made available to Alberta Netcare and will stay within the clinic's EMR."