General Information

A Limited Data Set (LDS) is a limited set of identifiable patient information per HIPAA Privacy Regulations.

A LDS may be shared with an outside person/entity without written patient authorization if two basic conditions are met:

1) The purpose of the disclosure is for research, public health or health care operations and
2) The party disclosing the information signs a DUA with the data recipient.

A LDS is still PHI, but has direct identifiers removed.

All of the following direct identifiers about the individual or their relatives, employers, or household members may not be used in a LDS. §164.514(e)(2)

- names;
- street addresses;
- telephone numbers;
- fax numbers;
- e-mail addresses;
- Social Security numbers;
- medical records numbers;
- health plan beneficiary numbers;
- account numbers;
- certificate license numbers;
- vehicle identifiers, serial numbers, license plates;
- device identifiers and serial numbers;
- URLs;
- IP address numbers;
- biometric identifiers; and
- full face photos (or comparable images).

Health information that may remain and be used in a LDS includes:

- dates such as admission, discharge, service, death, or DOB;
- city, state, five digit or more zip code; and
- ages in years, months or days or hours.

Special Notes:

- Use this checklist whenever UF/UFHealth is either releasing or receiving a LDS.
- A DUA is not needed if the information is de-identified under HIPAA.
- The UF DUA template is preferred whenever UF discloses a LDS. However, when UF received a LDS from an outside party, UF may be asked to sign that party’s DUA.
- Data Disposition and Reporting Breaches – be mindful of requirements and timelines. Agreeing to shorter time frames like 24 hours to notify are difficult to comply with.
**DUA Requirements - General**

☐ Purpose of data sharing is only for Research, Public Health, or Health Care Operations. §164.514(e)(3)

☐ DUA establishes permitted uses and disclosures of the information by the LDS recipient. §164.514(e)(4)(ii)(A)

☐ Establish / describe who is permitted to use or receive the LDS. §164.504(e)(4)(ii)(B)

☐ DUA may not authorize LDS recipient to use or further disclose the information in a manner that would violate the requirements of HIPAA. §164.514(e)(4)(ii)(A)

**Provide that the recipient of the information will:**

☐ Not use or further disclose the information other than as permitted by the DUA or as required by law; §164.504(e)(4)(ii)(C)(1)

☐ Use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of the information other than as provided for by the DUA; §164.504(e)(4)(ii)(C)(2)

☐ Report to the covered entity any use or disclosure of the information not provided for by its DUA of which it becomes aware; §164.504(e)(4)(ii)(C)(3)

☐ Ensure that any agents to whom it provides the LDS agree to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to the LDS recipient with respect to such information; and §164.504(e)(4)(ii)(C)(4)

☐ Not identify the information or contact the individuals. §164.504(e)(4)(ii)(C)(5)

**HIPAA DUA Citations and Resources**

✔ HIPAA § 164.514(e) Standard: Limited Data Set

✔ HHS OCR Frequently Asked Question: Limited Data Sets