

SHARE Patient Participation Information

Your health information. Your choice.

Let's face it. Filling out lengthy medical history forms when you see the doctor can be painful enough to keep you from ever going back. Wouldn't it be great if you never had to see another clipboard? And what if you could get better care, spend less money at the doctor's office, and save your own life in an emergency? It's all possible through SHARE (Arkansas State Health Alliance for Records Exchange).

Participation in SHARE is optional. Your health information WILL BE made available to your participating health care providers unless you OPT-OUT. Please read this information carefully and decide whether you wish to participate.

What is the State Health Alliance for Records Exchange?

SHARE is a way of sharing your health information statewide among your doctors, hospitals, labs, radiology centers, and other health care providers through secure, electronic means.

With access to your up-to-date health information, your doctor can provide safer, more effective health care that is tailored to your personal medical needs.

Why is sharing my health information in SHARE important?

1

It can improve your care.

Health care providers need your health information to accurately diagnose and treat you. With access to your complete record, they can give you better care.

2

It will save time & money.

Having access to lab results and medical tests may also reduce the number of tests that are ordered, which can help save you money.

3

It may save your life in an emergency.

Through SHARE, a provider can get vital medical information to treat you in case of an emergency when you might not be able to answer questions.

Who can access my information?

Participating health care providers can access your information for treatment, care coordination, and public health reporting. You can view participants at SHAREarkansas.com/directory. SHARE staff will have access to provide technical and administrative support.

What health information will be shared?

Lab and X-ray results, medical diagnosis information, drug allergies, prescriptions, immunization history and more will be available in SHARE. Some sensitive information requiring special protection *will not* be available in SHARE, such as adoption and some kinds of substance abuse treatment records.

How is my privacy protected?

Information exchanged through SHARE is protected under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"). HIPAA regulates the use of your personal health information and requires that your information be protected.

Are there privacy risks?

SHARE carefully protects and secures personal health information. However, no system of safeguards is perfect. Those who participate in SHARE believe the benefits outweigh the risks.

Can I hold back records I don't want my health providers to see?

No. SHARE cannot exclude specific visits, tests or episodes of care, or specific providers. Opting-out generally means that no one will be able to access your health information through SHARE except in an emergency. If you do not want some or all of your information made available through SHARE, you should consider opting-out.

How can I opt-out of SHARE?

If you wish to opt-out, you must ask your health care provider for and complete an Opt-Out Form. You can also opt-out for your minor child (under the age of 18) using the same process.

This health care entity (and other participating entities) will not withhold coverage or care if you choose not to exchange your protected health information in SHARE.

If I request to opt-out, can I change my mind later?

Yes. You can revoke an opt-out request by completing the Opt-Out Form and requesting to terminate your previous decision. All information participating providers have gathered since you made your request will be available for exchanging through SHARE.

Where can I find more information about SHARE?

To learn more about SHARE go to SHAREarkansas.com or call 501.410.1999.

 If you wish to opt-out, ask your health care provider for an Opt-Out Form.

QUESTIONS? Contact SHARE:
501.410.1999
SHAREarkansas.com

