



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE

Health Information Act (HIA): Key Information for Healthcare Providers and Healthcare Professionals

Under the HIA, key health information for each patient will be available in a summary patient record within the National Electronic Health Record system (NEHR), so that Singaporeans can benefit from **better coordinated care, enhanced quality of care and lower costs**.

1. Why HIA is Needed

Given Singapore's ageing population and greater burden of chronic diseases, there is a need for sustained and coordinated care across health settings. The NEHR system, which is Singapore's centralised repository for key health information, enables this.

All public hospitals and polyclinics are already contributing key health information to NEHR. We are also making good progress in the private sector, with majority of private hospitals and GP clinics also onboard. The HIA aims to close the last mile by requiring all licensed healthcare providers to contribute key health information to NEHR. Healthcare providers will also be granted access to NEHR to support their provision of patient care.

2. What Healthcare Providers Need to Know

A. NEHR Contribution Requirements

- i. You will need to contribute key health information of Singaporeans, Permanent Residents and patients with long-term immigration passes (e.g. FIN holders) to NEHR.
- ii. Contribution applies only to medical records prospectively, after your system is connected to NEHR. There is no requirement for you to upload historical records.
- iii. The types of health information you are required to contribute will depend on your licence type(s). For Outpatient Medical Services (OMS) (which includes primary care and private specialist clinics), and Outpatient Dental Services (ODS), the following types of health information need to be contributed to NEHR:

Type of Health Information to be Contributed	OMS	ODS
Visit event	✓	✓
Adverse drug event history	✓	✓
Prescribed / Dispensed Medications / Medication List	✓	✓
Vaccines administered	✓	✓
Cardiac report (e.g. ECGs)	✓	✓
Surgical procedure notes	✓	✓
Visit diagnoses/reasons for visit or patient problem list	✓	✓
Referral memorandum	✓	✓
Dental notes	-	✓

- iv. For more information on other licence types, please refer to the [First Schedule of HIA](#) for the data types that you need to contribute.

2. What Healthcare Providers Need to Know

- v. You are **NOT required** to upload detailed consultation and progress notes to NEHR
- vi. You only need to contribute information for Singaporeans, Permanent Residents and FIN holders. Contribution of health information of transient visitors (e.g. tourists) is not required.

B. NEHR Access Requirements (only applies to providers who wish to access NEHR)

- i. NEHR access is only granted to you and your authorised healthcare professionals for clinical care purposes.
- ii. You should only access NEHR for patients whom you are providing patient care to.
- iii. Individuals who only perform an administrative or corporate role, even if they are healthcare professionals, will not be given NEHR access.
- iv. You must implement appropriate practices to ensure your healthcare professionals are properly trained and aware of appropriate NEHR use.

C. Liability for Data Breaches involving HIMS

- i. In the event of any data or cybersecurity incidents, the circumstances surrounding the incident are salient to determining liability.
- ii. Your use of a HIA-compliant HIMS and you having put in place reasonable cybersecurity and data security (CS/DS) safeguards, will be considered in determining if there will be liability for lapses arising from the HIMS.
- iii. You will still need to develop and implement appropriate standard operating procedures (SOPs) and staff training to meet the CS/DS requirements.
- iv. MOH will provide guidance, resources and support (see below) to providers in meeting the CS/DS measures.

3. What Healthcare Professionals Need to Know

A. Role of NEHR

- i. NEHR does not replace good clinical practice and professional judgment, which includes history-taking and physical examination. **You do not need to access NEHR for every single consultation.**
- ii. NEHR is an supplementary source of information for you if you require further clinical information about your patients, or if your patients cannot recall their information clearly. You should use NEHR and the information within in accordance with relevant professional standards in your Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines.
- iii. MOH will publish a set of guidelines on the appropriate access and use of NEHR information to support healthcare professionals. This will complement existing professional ethical codes and be updated periodically.

B. When NEHR Can Be Used

- i. You can only use NEHR for (i) delivery of patient care but not when it is related to insurance or employment; or (ii) conducting approved statutory medical examinations (list of approved statutory medical examinations in the [Third Schedule of HIA](#)).

C. When NEHR Cannot Be Used

- i. You cannot access NEHR for insurance or employment-related purposes unless they are related to an approved statutory medical examination. MOH has published a [circular](#) to guide healthcare providers and professionals on the disclosure of patient information to insurers.
- ii. You should not access NEHR for other non-patient care purposes such as research, audits, and teaching/education.

D. Respecting Patient Choice / Transparency

3. What Healthcare Professionals Need to Know

- i. Patients can currently limit access to their NEHR information to all healthcare providers. In the later part of 2026, patients will be able to select the providers they want to share their health information with. Where such access restrictions are applied, only basic information (viz. allergies and vaccination records) will be available to healthcare providers to support continuity of care.
- ii. Patients may view the service provider(s) who accessed their NEHR information through HealthHub logs and report any inappropriate access to MOH.
- iii. Doctors may override access restrictions during medical emergencies where they have judged that accessing NEHR is needed, and such access will be audited.

E. Disclosure of NEHR Information

- i. NEHR information may only be disclosed to other healthcare professionals involved in caring for the same patient, and only the NEHR information which is no more than necessary for patient care may be disclosed.
- ii. You may incorporate relevant information from NEHR into your patients' medical record where necessary. You should not be sharing printouts/screenshots of NEHR with third parties.