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Do You Want Apps to Have Your Medical Records?

Two federal rules on interoperability of patient medical records were released last week. Early next year, you’ll be able to get on-demand access to certain medical record information through an app. If you choose to use an app, the rule requires electronic health record companies to share your medical records with the company that made your app, such as Google or Apple. Patients will decide what medical record information an app developer can receive.

Federal officials claim these rules give patients “more control of their medical record,” but that control is very limited. Unfortunately, nothing in the rule prevents the broad data sharing taking place today without consent because of HIPAA. Thus, until patient consent is restored, greater interoperability of computerized medical records means less privacy, not more.


Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

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