

SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL OF BROOKLYN
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

No. HIPAA-3

Subject: BUSINESS ASSOCIATE
AGREEMENTS

Page 1 of 4

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Original Issue Date 12/02

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Supersedes: 07/06

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I. PURPOSE

To ensure that all business associates (BA) enter into an appropriate contract with SUNY Downstate that will provide satisfactory assurance to SUNY Downstate that the business associate will appropriately safeguard the protected health information (PHI), in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and its accompanying regulations.

II. POLICY

A. Business Associate Agreement Content- The contract between SUNY Downstate and a BA must:

1. Establish the permitted and required uses and disclosures of the information. The contract may not authorize further use or disclosure in a manner that would violate the HIPAA standards, except that:
 - a. The contract may permit the BA to use or disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of the BA; and
 - b. The contract may permit the BA to provide data aggregation services relating to SUNY Downstate's health care operations.
2. Provide that the BA will:
 - a. Not use or further disclose the information other than as stated in the contract or as required by law;
 - b. Use appropriate safeguards, including administrative, physical and technical safeguards, to prevent unauthorized use and disclosure other than as provided in the contract and to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains or transmits on behalf of the covered entity;
 - c. Report to SUNY Downstate any use or disclosure of information not provided for by the contract or any security incident of which it becomes aware;
 - d. Ensure that any agents and subcontractors to whom it provided PHI received from, or created by the BA on behalf of, SUNY Downstate agrees to the same restrictions and conditions provided in the contract;
 - e. Make available and provide access of PHI to a patient, when requested;
 - f. Make available PHI for amendment and incorporate any amendments to PHI, as necessary;
 - g. Make available the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures;
 - h. Make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from, or created on behalf of, SUNY Downstate available to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for purposes of determining SUNY Downstate's compliance with the HIPAA Privacy standards; and
 - i. If feasible, at termination of the contract, return or destroy all PHI received from, or created on behalf of, SUNY Downstate that the BA still maintains in any form. The BA must not retain any copies of the information.
 - j. If not feasible, the BA must extend the protections of the contract to the information and limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the information infeasible.
3. Authorize SUNY Downstate's termination of the contract if SUNY Downstate determines that the BA has violated a material term of the contract.
 - a. If termination is not feasible, SUNY Downstate is required to notify the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) of the un-cured breach.

B. Permitted Uses & Disclosures

1. The contract may permit the BA to **use** the information, if necessary:
 - a. For the proper management and administration of the BA; or
 - b. To carry out the legal responsibilities of the BA.
2. The contract may permit the BA to **disclose** the information for the above purposes, if:
 - a. The disclosure is required by law; or
 - b. The BA obtains reasonable assurances from the recipient that:

- i. The information will be held confidentially and used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the recipient;
- ii. S/he will notify the BA of any breaches of confidentiality of which s/he becomes aware.

C. Treatment Relationships- A BA agreement is not needed for disclosures by SUNY Downstate to a healthcare provider concerning the treatment of a patient.

D. Compliance- In order to ensure compliance, SUNY Downstate will:

1. Investigate received complaints and other information containing substantial and credible evidence of violation(s) by a BA.
2. Take reasonable steps to cure the breach or violation of which it becomes aware. If such steps are unsuccessful, SUNY Downstate will:
 - a. Terminate the contract; or
 - b. Report the problem to the Secretary of HHS, if termination is not feasible.

E. SUNY Downstate as the BA- If SUNY Downstate is a BA of another covered entity, it must comply with all the terms stated in the contract.

F. Documentation- All BA contracts must be documented and retained, as appropriate.

1. All new contracts after April 14, 2003 must have an appropriate business associate agreement.
2. All existing contracts that have been modified or renewed after October 15, 2002 must have an appropriate business associate agreement by April 14, 2003.
3. All existing contracts that have not been modified or renewed after October 15, 2002 must have an appropriate business associate agreement by April 14, 2004. However, the BA is still required to limit the use of protected health information to that which is permissible under HIPAA and make the protected health information available to SUNY Downstate and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) upon request.

III. DEFINITION(s)

Business Associate- A person who is not a member of SUNY Downstate's workforce who:

1. On behalf of SUNY, performs or assists in the performance of a function or activity involving the use or disclosure of individually identifiable health information (IIHI), including claims processing or administration; data analysis, processing or administration; utilization review; quality assurance; billing; benefit management; practice management and repricing; or
2. Provides legal, actuarial, accounting, consulting, data aggregation, management, administrative, accreditation or financial services to SUNY Downstate, where the provision of the service involved the disclosure of IIHI from SUNY Downstate.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of all medical staff members and hospital staff members to comply with this policy. Medical staff members include physicians as well as allied health professionals. Hospital staff members include all employees, medical or other students, trainees, residents, interns, volunteers, consultants, contractors and subcontractors at the hospital.

V. PROCEDURE/GUIDELINES

All new contracts and renewal of contracts for services that may involve PHI will incorporate BAA's, as an exhibit to and a part of such contract. Both the contractor and an authorized signatory at DMC sign all BAA's. The Contract and Procurement Department maintains all executed BAA's, as well as a database to track all vendors with a BAA.

In addition, Contracts and Procurement will, on an annual basis, review a current Vendor Disbursement Report to identify any additional vendors that may require a BAA.

If a vendor proposes revisions to the language in DMC's standard BAA, DMC's legal counsel will review such proposed revisions for acceptability.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

Business Associate Agreements: SUNY as Business Associate, SUNY as Covered Entity

VII. REFERENCES

Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 CFR §164.502(e), §164.504(e)

	Revision	Required	Responsible Staff Name and Title
	Yes	No	Adeola O. Dabiri, Director of Regulatory Affairs
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	

**AMENDMENT TO IMPLEMENT HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE REQUIREMENTS
(SUNY=COVERED ENTITY)**

CONTRACT NO(S).: _____

THIS AMENDMENT is made by and between **THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK** ("SUNY"), an educational corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York and having its principal offices located at State University Plaza, Albany, New York 12246, acting for and on behalf of **SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER** (also known as SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn), located at 450 Clarkson Ave., Brooklyn, New York 11203 ("Covered Entity"), and _____ ("Business Associate").

NAME/ADDRESS OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

WHEREAS, Covered Entity and Business Associate are parties to one or more agreements with contract numbers referenced above, and may in the future become parties to additional agreements (collectively, the "Underlying Agreements"), pursuant to which Business Associate provides certain services to Covered Entity and, in connection with such services, creates, receives, uses or discloses for or on behalf of Covered Entity certain individually identifiable protected health information relating to patients of Covered Entity ("PHI") that is subject to protection under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and regulations promulgated thereunder, as such law and regulations may be amended from time to time (collectively, "HIPAA"); and

WHEREAS, by reason of such activities, the parties believe that Business Associate is a "business associate" of Covered Entity, as such term is defined in 45 CFR 160.103; and

WHEREAS, Covered Entity and Business Associate wish to comply in all respects with the requirements of HIPAA, including requirements applicable to the relationship between a covered entity and its business associates;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree that each of the Underlying Agreements shall hereby be amended as follows:

1. Definitions.

- a. "Individual" shall have the same meaning as the term "individual" in 45 CFR 164.501 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR 164.502(g).
- b. "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR part 160 and part 164, subparts A and E.
- c. "Security Rule" shall mean the Health Insurance Reform: Security Standards at 45 CFR Parts 160, 162 and 164.
- d. "Protected Health Information" shall have the same meaning as the term "protected health information" in 45 CFR 164.501, limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity.
- e. "Required By Law" shall have the same meaning as the term "required by law" in 45 CFR 164.501.
- f. "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services or his designee.

2. Obligations and Activities of Business Associate

- a. Business Associate agrees to not use or further disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by the Underlying Agreement or as Required By Law.
- b. Business Associate agrees to use appropriate safeguards, including without limitation administrative, physical, and technical safeguards, to prevent use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information other than as provided for by this Amendment and to reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of any electronic Protected Health Information that it may receive, maintain, or transmit on behalf of the Covered Entity.

- c. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Amendment.
- d. Business Associate agrees to report to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information not provided for by this Amendment or any security incident of which it becomes aware involving Protected Health Information of the Covered Entity.
- e. Business Associate agrees to ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity agrees to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Amendment to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- f. Business Associate agrees to provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set, to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR 164.524.
- g. Business Associate agrees to make any amendment(s) to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set that the Covered Entity directs or agrees to pursuant to 45 CFR 164.526 at the request of Covered Entity or an Individual, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity.
- h. Business Associate agrees to make internal practices, books, and records relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity available to the Covered Entity, or at the request of the Covered Entity to the Secretary, in a time and manner designated by the Covered Entity or the Secretary, for purposes of the Secretary determining Covered Entity's compliance with the Privacy & Security Rules.

- i. Business Associate agrees to document such disclosures of Protected Health Information and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 CFR 164.528.
 - j. Business Associate agrees to provide to Covered Entity or an Individual, in time and manner designated by Covered Entity, information collected in accordance with Section (2)(i) of this Amendment, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 CFR 164.528.
 - k. Business Associate hereby acknowledges and agrees that Covered Entity has notified Business Associate that it is required to comply with the confidentiality, disclosure and re-disclosure requirements of 10 NYCRR Part 63 to the extent such requirements may be applicable.
3. Permitted Uses and Disclosures by Business Associate. Except as otherwise limited in this Amendment, Business Associate may use or disclose Protected Health Information to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in the Underlying Agreement, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy & Security Rules if done by Covered Entity.
- a. Except as otherwise limited in this Amendment, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate.
 - b. Except as otherwise limited in this Amendment, Business Associate may disclose Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate, provided that disclosures are required by law, or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is disclosed that it will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies the Business

Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.

4. Term and Termination.

- a. Term. The Term of this Amendment shall be effective as of the Effective Date (as defined below), and shall terminate when all of the Protected Health Information provided by Covered Entity to Business Associate, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, is destroyed or returned to Covered Entity, or, if it is infeasible to return or destroy Protected Health Information, protections are extended to such information, in accordance with the termination provisions in this Section.
- b. Termination for Cause. Upon Covered Entity's knowledge of a material breach by Business Associate, Covered Entity may, in its sole discretion, either (1) provide Business Associate with an opportunity to cure the breach and then terminate the Underlying Agreement if Business Associate does not cure the breach within time period specified by the Covered Entity or (2) terminate the Underlying Agreement immediately.
- c. Effect of Termination.
 - (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this section, upon termination of this Amendment or the Underlying Agreement for any reason, Business Associate shall return or destroy all Protected Health Information received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity. This provision shall apply to Protected Health Information that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the Protected Health Information.
 - (2) In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity notification of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. Upon mutual agreement of the Parties that return or destruction of Protected Health Information is infeasible, Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Amendment to such Protected Health Information and limit

further uses and disclosures of such Protected Health Information to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such Protected Health Information.

- d. Effective Date. The effective date of this Amendment (the "Effective Date") shall be the later of (i) the effective date of the Underlying Agreement or (ii) April 14, 2003.

5. Miscellaneous.

- a. Regulatory References. A reference in this Amendment to a section in the Privacy & Security Rules means the section as in effect or as amended, and for which compliance is required.
- b. Amendment. The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend the Underlying Agreement from time to time as is necessary for Covered Entity to comply with the requirements of the Privacy & Security Rules and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Public Law 104-191; provided, however, that no amendment shall be deemed valid unless signed by both parties and approved by the New York State Attorney General and the Office of the State Comptroller.
- c. Survival. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Section 4(c) of this Amendment shall survive the termination of this Amendment and/or the Underlying Agreements, as shall the rights of access and inspection of Covered Entity.
- d. Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this Amendment shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits Covered Entity to comply with the Privacy & Security Rules.
- e. Material Breach. The parties acknowledge that in the event the Covered Entity learns of a pattern or activity or practice of the Business Associate that constitutes violation of a material term of this Amendment, then the parties promptly shall take reasonable steps to cure the violation. If such steps are, in the judgment of the Covered Entity, unsuccessful, ineffective or not feasible, then the Covered Entity may terminate, in its sole discretion,

any or all of the Underlying Agreements upon written notice to the Business Associate, if feasible, and if not feasible, shall report the violation to the Secretary of HHS.

- f. Governing Law; Conflict. This Amendment shall be enforced and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York. Jurisdiction of any litigation with respect to this Agreement shall be in New York, with venue in a court of competent jurisdiction located in Kings County. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Amendment and the terms of any of the Underlying Agreements, the terms of this Amendment shall control.

SUNY Downstate Medical Center-
Signature of Authorized Official

Business Associate-
Signature of Authorized Official

SUNY Downstate Medical Center-
Print Name of Authorized Official

Business Associate-
Print Name of Authorized Official

Date

Date

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WHEREAS, by reason of such activities, the parties believe that Business Associate is a "business associate" of Covered Entity, as such term is defined in 45 CFR 160.103; and

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- b. Business Associate agrees to use appropriate safeguards, including without limitation administrative, physical, and technical safeguards, to prevent use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information other than as provided for by this Amendment and to reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of any electronic Protected Health Information that it may receive, maintain, or transmit on behalf of the Covered Entity.

- c. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of Protected Health Information by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Amendment.
- d. Business Associate agrees to report to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information not provided for by this Amendment or any security incident of which it becomes aware involving Protected Health Information of the Covered Entity.
- e. Business Associate agrees to ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity agrees to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Amendment to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- f. Business Associate agrees to provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set, to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, to an Individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR 164.524.
- g. Business Associate agrees to make any amendment(s) to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set that the Covered Entity directs or agrees to pursuant to 45 CFR 164.526 at the request of Covered Entity or an Individual, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity.
- h. Business Associate agrees to make internal practices, books, and records relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity available to the Covered Entity, or at the request of the Covered Entity to the Secretary, in a time and manner designated by the Covered Entity or the Secretary, for purposes of the Secretary determining Covered Entity's compliance with the Privacy & Security Rules.

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 - k. Business Associate hereby acknowledges and agrees that Covered Entity has notified Business Associate that it is required to comply with the confidentiality, disclosure and re-disclosure requirements of 10 NYCRR Part 63 to the extent such requirements may be applicable.
3. Permitted Uses and Disclosures by Business Associate. Except as otherwise limited in this Amendment, Business Associate may use or disclose Protected Health Information to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in the Underlying Agreement, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy & Security Rules if done by Covered Entity.
- a. Except as otherwise limited in this Amendment, Business Associate may use Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate.
 - b. Except as otherwise limited in this Amendment, Business Associate may disclose Protected Health Information for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate, provided that disclosures are required by law, or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is disclosed that it will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies the Business

Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.

4. Obligations of the Covered Entity.

- a. Covered Entity shall provide Business Associate with the notice of privacy practices that Covered Entity produces in accordance with 45 CFR 164.520, as well as any changes to such notice.
- b. Covered Entity shall provide Business Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, permission by Individual to use or disclose Protected Health Information, if such changes affect Business Associate's permitted or required uses and disclosures.
- c. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information that Covered Entity has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR 164.522.

5. Permissible Requests by the Covered Entity. Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose Protected Health Information in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy & Security Rules if done by Covered Entity.

6. Term and Termination.

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Underlying Agreement if Business Associate does not cure the breach within time period specified by the Covered Entity or (2) terminate the Underlying Agreement immediately.

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- d. Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this Amendment shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits Covered Entity to comply with the Privacy & Security Rules.
- e. Material Breach. The parties acknowledge that in the event the Covered Entity learns of a pattern or activity or practice of the Business Associate that constitutes violation of a material term of this Amendment, then the parties promptly shall take reasonable steps to cure the violation. If such steps are, in the judgment of the Covered Entity, unsuccessful, ineffective or not feasible, then the Covered Entity may terminate, in its sole discretion, any or all of the Underlying Agreements upon written notice to the Business Associate, if feasible, and if not feasible, shall report the violation to the Secretary of HHS.
- f. Governing Law; Conflict. This Amendment shall be enforced and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York. Jurisdiction of any litigation with respect to this Agreement shall be in New York, with venue in a court of competent jurisdiction located in Kings County. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Amendment and the terms of any of the Underlying Agreements, the terms of this Amendment shall control.

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