

Effective Date: January 20, 2011

Policy Number: MHC\_CC1105

Review Date: December 14, 2015

Section: Compliance

Revised Date: January 9, 2018

Oversight Level: Corporate

Administrative Responsibility: Corporate Vice President of Compliance; HIPAA Council

## 1. Purpose

1.1. This policy sets forth the Administrative structure that MHC is required to maintain in order to comply with the HIPAA Rules.

## 2. Scope

2.1. McLaren Health Care Corporation ("MHC"), its subsidiaries, any other entity or organization in which MHC or an MHC subsidiary owns a direct or indirect equity interest of 50% or more, provided that organization has agreed to adopt MHC policies; and MHC's workforce members, including employees and contracted agents, physicians, volunteers, vendors/suppliers, and other business partners.

## 3. Definitions

3.1. **Business Associate** means an organization or a person, other than a Workforce Member who on behalf of MHC, creates, receives, maintains, or transmits PHI for:

3.1.1. claims processing or administration; data analysis, processing or administration; utilization review; quality assurance; patient safety activities; billing; benefit management; practice management; and re-pricing; or

3.1.2. Provides one of the following services which involves the disclosure of PHI from MHC or another Business Associate:

3.1.2.1. legal; actuarial; accounting; consulting; data aggregation; management; administrative; accreditation; or financial services to MHC;

3.1.2.2. Provides data transmission services which routinely require access to PHI;

3.1.2.3. Provides personal health records to one or more individuals on behalf of MHC;

3.1.2.4. Is a subcontractor that creates, receives, maintains, or transmits protected health information on behalf of the Business Associate;

3.1.3. Business Associate does not include:

3.1.3.1. Subsidiaries or other covered entities which are part of an MHC organized health care arrangement;

3.1.3.2. Government agencies that determine eligibility for a government health plan.

**3.2. Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI)** is PHI that is in electronic form (see definition for Protected Health Information).

**3.3. Health Plan** is a covered entity that receives health information electronically in connection with a covered transaction, such as accepting submitted health care claims from a health care provider.

**3.4. HIPAA Rules** means the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") and implementing regulations, the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (the "Privacy Rule") the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information (the "Security Rule"), Standards for Electronic Transactions, and the privacy, security and Breach Notification regulations of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act ("HITECH Rules") and HIPAA Omnibus final rule.

**3.5. Incidental Use or Disclosure** is defined as a secondary use or disclosure that cannot reasonably be prevented, is limited in nature, and that occurs as a by-product of an otherwise permitted use or disclosure under the Privacy Rule.

**3.6. Individual** means the person who is the subject of PHI or the Authorized Representative acting on behalf of the Individual.

**3.7. Notice of Privacy Practices (NPP)** is a notice of the uses and disclosures of protected health information that may be made by MHC, and of the individual's rights and MHC's legal duties with respect to protected health information.

**3.8. Payment** means the activities undertaken by a provider or health plan to obtain or provide reimbursement for the provision of health care. Activities related to the Individual to whom health care is provided and include, but are not limited to the following:

**3.8.1.** Determinations of eligibility or coverage;

**3.8.2.** Billing, claims management, collection activities, obtaining payment under a contract for reinsurance, and related health care data processing;

**3.8.3.** Review of services with respect to medical necessity, coverage under a health plan, appropriateness of care, or justification of charges.

**3.8.4.** Utilization review activities, including precertification and preauthorization of services, concurrent and retrospective review of services; and,

**3.8.5.** Disclosure to consumer reporting agencies of any of the following PHI relating to collection of premiums or payment: name; address; date of birth; social security number; payment history; account number; and name/address of the health care provider and/or health plan.

**3.9. Protected Health Information (PHI)** is defined as any individually identifiable health information that is collected from an individual, and is transmitted, received, created and/or maintained, in any form or medium, by MHC and/or its subsidiaries. PHI is any information that relates to the past, present or future physical or mental

health/condition of the individual; relates to the provision of health care to an individual; relates to the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

**3.9.1.** PHI is any information that either identifies the Individual or there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the Individual, including, but not limited to: name, medical record number, encounter number, social security number, address, and photo, and diagnosis, diagnostic reports, procedures, progress notes, images, medications, billing documents, physician or location (if such information leads one to know or infer a diagnosis, etc.), slides, and/or blocks.

**3.9.2.** PHI excludes:

**3.9.2.1.** Records of students maintained by federally funded educational agencies: covered by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232g; or maintained by a healthcare provider and used only for the treatment of students 18 years or older, or attending post-secondary educational institutions, 20 U.S.C. 1232g(a)(4)(B)(iv);

**3.9.2.2.** Employment records held by MHC in its role as employer; and

**3.9.2.3.** Records of a person who has been deceased more than 50 years.

**3.10. Treatment** means the provision, coordination or management of health care and related services by one or more providers, including the coordination or management of health care by a provider with a third party; consultation between providers relating to a patient; or the referral of a patient for health care from one provider to another.

**3.11. Secretary** means the Secretary of the Department Health and Human Services.

**3.12. Workforce / Workforce Members** is defined as employees, temporary workers, contracted agents, physicians, volunteers, vendors/suppliers, consultants, students and other persons or entities whose conduct in the performance of work is under the direct control of MHC or its Business Associate, whether or not they are paid by MHC or its Business Associate.

## **4. Policy**

### **4.1. Privacy**

#### **4.1.1. Personnel Designation**

**4.1.1.1.** MHC must designate a privacy official who is responsible for the development and implementation of the policies and procedures at each subsidiary organization.

**4.1.1.2.** MHC must designate a contact person or office who is responsible for receiving complaints under the Administrative Requirements and who is able to provide further information about matters covered by the NPP.

4.1.1.3. MHC must document the personnel designations as required by this policy.

#### 4.1.2. Training

4.1.2.1. MHC must train all members of its Workforce on the policies and procedures required by the HIPAA Rules with respect to PHI, as necessary and appropriate for the members of the Workforce to carry out their functions within MHC.

#### 4.1.3. Safeguards

4.1.3.1. MHC must have in place appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect the privacy of PHI.

4.1.3.2. MHC must reasonably safeguard PHI from any intentional or unintentional use or disclosure that is in violation of the requirements of the HIPAA Rules.

4.1.3.3. MHC must reasonably safeguard PHI to limit Incidental Uses or Disclosures made pursuant to an otherwise permitted or required Use or Disclosure.

#### 4.1.4. Complaints

4.1.4.1. MHC must provide a process for Individuals to make complaints concerning MHC's policies and procedures, its compliance with such policies and procedures and/or the requirements of the HIPAA Rules.

4.1.4.2. MHC must document all complaints received, and their disposition, if any.

#### 4.1.5. Sanctions

4.1.5.1. MHC must have and apply appropriate sanctions against members of its Workforce who fail to comply with its privacy policies and procedures or the requirements of the HIPAA Rules

4.1.5.2. MHC must document the sanctions that are applied, if any, as required in this policy.

#### 4.1.6. Mitigation

4.1.6.1. MHC must mitigate, to the extent practical, any harmful effect that is known of a Use or Disclosure of PHI in violation of its policies and procedures or the requirements of the HIPAA Rules by MHC or its Business Associate.

#### 4.1.7. Refraining from Intimidation or Retaliatory Acts

4.1.7.1. See Policy MHC CC\_0114 Non Retaliation.

4.1.7.2. MHC may not intimidate, threaten, coerce, discriminate against, or take other retaliatory action against any individual for: exercising their right under, or for participation in any process established by the HIPAA Rules, including the filing of a complaint; filing a complaint with the Secretary under the HIPAA Rules; testifying, assisting, or participating in an investigation, compliance review, proceeding, or hearing under the Regulation; or opposing any act or practice made unlawful by the HIPAA Rules, provided the individual or person has a good faith belief that the practice opposed is unlawful, and the manner of the opposition is reasonable and does not involve a Disclosure of PHI in violation of the HIPAA Rules.

#### 4.1.8. Waiver of Rights

4.1.8.1. MHC may not require Individuals to waive their rights under the HIPAA Rules as a condition of the provision of Treatment, Payment, enrollment in a Health Plan, or eligibility for benefits.

#### 4.1.9. Policies and Procedures

4.1.9.1. MHC must implement policies and procedures with respect to PHI that are designed to comply with the HIPAA Rules. The policies and procedures must be reasonably designed, taking into account the size of and the type of activities that relate to PHI undertaken by MHC, to ensure such compliance.

#### 4.1.10. Changes to Policies and Procedures

4.1.10.1. MHC must change its policies and procedures as necessary and appropriate to comply with changes in the law, including the HIPAA Rules;

4.1.10.2. When MHC changes a privacy practice that is stated in the NPP and makes corresponding changes to its policies and procedures, it may make the changes effective for PHI that it created or received prior to the effective date of the NPP revision, if MHC has, in accordance with the HIPAA Rules, included in the NPP a statement reserving its right to make such a change in its privacy practices; or

4.1.10.3. MHC may make any other changes to policies and procedures at any time, provided that the changes are documented and implemented in accordance with this section.

4.1.10.4. Whenever there is a change in law that necessitates a change to the MHC's policies or procedures, MHC must promptly document and implement the revised policy or procedure. If the change in law materially affects the content of the NPP, MHC must promptly make the appropriate revisions to the NPP in accordance with the HIPAA Rules. Nothing in this paragraph may be used by MHC to excuse a failure to comply with the law.

4.1.10.5. For changes to privacy practices stated in the Notice of Privacy Practices, see policy MHC CC\_1104 Notice of Privacy Practices.

**4.1.10.6.** MHC may change, at any time, a policy or procedure that does not materially affect the content of the NPP required by the HIPAA Rules, provided that the policy or procedure, as revised, complies with the HIPAA Rules; and prior to the effective date of the change, the policy or procedure, as revised, is documented as required by this policy.

#### **4.1.11. Documentation**

**4.1.11.1.** MHC must maintain the policies and procedures provided for in written or electronic form;

**4.1.11.2.** If a communication is required by the HIPAA Rules to be in writing, maintain such writing, or an electronic copy, as documentation; and

**4.1.11.3.** If an action, activity, or designation is required by the HIPAA Rules to be documented, maintain a written or electronic record of such action, activity, or designation.

**4.1.11.4.** MHC must retain the documentation required by this policy for six years from the date of its creation or the date when it last was in effect, or according to the MHC Record Retention Schedule, whichever is later.

#### **4.1.12. Group Health Plans**

**4.1.12.1.** A Group Health Plan is not subject to the requirements in Sections 4.1.1 through 4.1.6 and 4.1.9, to the extent that the Group Health Plan provides health benefits solely through an insurance contract with a Health Insurance Issuer or an HMO; and the Group Health Plan does not create or received PHI, except for:

**4.1.12.1.1.** Summary Health Information; or

**4.1.12.1.2.** Information on whether the individual is participating in the Group Health Plan, or is enrolled in or has dis-enrolled from a Health Insurance Issuer or HMO offered by the plan.

**4.1.12.2.** A Group Health Plan is subject to the documentation requirements only with respect to plan documents amended in accordance with the HIPAA Rules.

#### **4.1.13. Business Associates**

**4.1.13.1.** For those relationships that constitute a “Business Associate” relationship, MHC shall enter into appropriate written agreements with the Business Associate as defined by MHC CC1106 HIPAA Business Associate and Data Use Agreement Policy.

### **4.2. Security**

**4.2.1. Security Management Process.** MHC must implement policies and procedures to prevent, detect, contain and correct security violations. MHC must:

**4.2.1.1.** Conduct an accurate and thorough assessment of the potential risks and vulnerabilities to the confidentiality, integrity and availability of ePHI held by MHC or its business associates;

**4.2.1.2.** Implement security measures sufficient to reduce risks and vulnerabilities to a reasonable and appropriate level, in compliance with the HIPAA Rule;

**4.2.1.3.** Apply appropriate sanctions against workforce members who fail to comply with MHC's security policies and procedures; and

**4.2.1.4.** Implement procedures to regularly review records to information system activity, such as audit logs, access reports, and security incident tracking reports.

**4.2.2. Assigned Security Responsibility.** MHC must identify the security official who is responsible for the development and implementation of the policies and procedures required under the HIPAA Rules.

**4.2.3. Workforce Security.** MHC must implement policies and procedures to ensure that all members of its workforce have appropriate access to ePHI, and to prevent those workforce members who do not have access from obtaining access to ePHI. MHC must implement procedures:

**4.2.3.1.** For the authorization and/or supervision of workforce members who work with ePHI or in locations where it might be accessed;

**4.2.3.2.** To determine that the access of a workforce member to ePHI is appropriate; and

**4.2.3.3.** For terminating access to ePHI when the employment of, or other arrangement with, a workforce member ends or as required by the HIPAA Rule

**4.2.4. Information Access Management.** MHC must implement policies and procedures for authorizing access to ePHI that are consistent with the HIPAA Rule.

**4.2.4.1.** MHC must implement policies and procedures for granting access to ePHI, for example, through access to a workstation, transaction, program, process or other mechanism.

**4.2.4.2.** MHC must implement policies and procedures that, based upon MHC's access authorization policies, establish, document, review and modify a user's right of access to a workstation, transaction, program or process.

**4.2.5. Security Awareness and Training.** MHC must implement a security awareness and training program for all members of its workforce, including management, to include the following:

**4.2.5.1.** Periodic security updates/reminders;

4.2.5.2. Procedures for guarding against, detecting, and reporting malicious software; and

4.2.5.3. Procedures for creating, changing, and safeguarding passwords;

4.2.6. **Security Incident Procedures**. MHC must implement policies and procedures to address security incidents, including:

4.2.6.1. Identifying and responding to suspected or known security incidents;

4.2.6.2. Mitigating, to the extent practicable, harmful effects of security incidents that are known to the MHC or its business associates; and

4.2.6.3. Documenting security incidents and their outcomes.

4.2.7. **Contingency Plan**. MHC must establish (and implement as needed) policies and procedures for responding to an emergency or other occurrence, such as fire, vandalism, natural disaster, or system failure) that damages systems that contain ePHI, to include:

4.2.7.1. A data backup plan to create and maintain retrievable exact copies of ePHI;

4.2.7.2. A disaster recovery plan to restore any loss of data;

4.2.7.3. An emergency mode operation plan to enable continuation of critical business processes for protection of the security of ePHI while operating in emergency mode;

4.2.7.4. Testing and revision procedures for periodic testing and revision of contingency plans; and

4.2.7.5. Applications and data criticality analyses to assess the relative criticality of specific applications and data in support of other contingency plan components.

4.2.8. **Evaluation**. MHC must perform a technical and non-technical evaluation, based initially upon the standards implemented under the HIPAA Rule and subsequently, in response to environmental or operational changes affecting the security of ePHI that establishes the extent to which MHC's security policies meet the requirements of the HIPAA Rule.

4.2.9. **Business Associate Contracts and Other Arrangements**. MHC may permit a business associate to create, receive, maintain or transmit ePHI on MHC's behalf only if MHC obtains satisfactory assurances, in accordance with the HIPAA Rule, that the business associate will appropriately safeguard the information. MHC must document the satisfactory assurances required under the HIPAA Rule through a written contract or other arrangement with the business associate that meets the requirements of the HIPAA Rule. MHC is not required to obtain such satisfactory assurances from a business associate that is a subcontractor.

## 5. Procedure

### 5.1. Designation of a Privacy Official and a Security Official

5.1.1. MHC and its subsidiaries will each designate a privacy and security official. Such designation will be confirmed annually by each entity's Board of Trustees.

### 5.2. Training

5.2.1. MHC must provide training, as follows:

5.2.1.1. To each member of the MHC Workforce annually and to each new member of the Workforce within a reasonable period of time after the person joins MHC's Workforce; and

5.2.1.2. To each member of MHC's Workforce whose functions are affected by a material change in the policies or procedures required by the HIPAA Rules, within a reasonable period of time after the material change becomes effective.

5.2.2. MHC must document that the training has been provided.

### 5.3. Complaints

5.3.1. Complaints shall be addressed by the privacy and/or security official. The contact information for the privacy official shall be printed on the NPP.

5.3.2. Complaints and/or security incidents will be documented in a password-protected database provided by MHC (i.e., ComplyTrack).

### 5.4. Sanctions

5.4.1. Sanctions related to violations of the Privacy or Security rules shall be determined by each subsidiary consistent with MHC policy. Refer to MHC CC1113 HIPAA Violation Corrective Action Policy. Each violation is to be evaluated on its own merits. Documentation of sanctions, and any other complaint resolution, shall be included in the ComplyTrack database.

### 5.5. Mitigation

5.5.1. Mitigation of complaints shall be completed in accordance with HIPAA Rules and guidance provided by HHS. Notification to the affected Individuals and reporting of violations shall be provided in accordance with HIPAA Rules. Refer to MHC\_CC1109 HIPAA Privacy and Security Breaches, Notification, and Mitigation for further information.

5.5.2. MHC must mitigate, to the extent practical, any harmful effect that is known of a use or disclosure of PHI or ePHI in violation of its policies and procedures or the requirements of the HIPAA Rules by MHC or its business associate.

## 5.6. Refraining from Intimidation or Retaliatory Acts

5.6.1. Refer to policy MHC\_CC0114 Non-Retaliation Policy for guidelines related to intimidation or retaliation.

## 5.7. Documentation

5.7.1. MHC must maintain the policies and procedures provided for in written or electronic form;

5.7.2. If a communication is required by the HIPAA Rules to be in writing, maintain such writing, or an electronic copy, as documentation; and

5.7.3. If an action, activity, or designation is required by the HIPAA Rules to be documented, maintain a written or electronic record of such action, activity, or designation.

5.7.4. MHC must retain the documentation required by this policy for six years from the date of its creation or the date when it last was in effect, or according to the MHC Record Retention Schedule, whichever is later.

## 5.8. Business Associates

5.8.1. MHC will document and execute Business Associate Agreements with its Business Associates in compliance with MHC CC1106 *HIPAA Business Associate and Data Use Agreement Policy*.

## 6. References

6.1. MHC CC0110 Record Retention Policy

6.2. MHC CC0114 Non Retaliation Policy

6.3. MHC CC1104 Notice of Privacy Practices Policy

6.4. MHC CC1106 Business Associate and Data Use Agreement Policy

6.5. MHC CC1109 HIPAA Privacy and Security Breaches, Notifications, and Mitigation Policy

6.6. MHC IS1100 Program Management

6.7. MHC IS1200 Planning

6.8. MHC IS1300 Risk Assessment

6.9. MHC IS1400 Security Assessment and Authorization

6.10. MHC IS1500 Systems and Service Acquisition

**Policy Title HIPAA Administrative Policy (Privacy and Security)**  
**McLaren Health Care**

**Policy Number MHC\_CC1105**

- 6.11. MHC IS2010 Acceptable Use of Technology Resources
- 6.12. MHC IS2020 Email, Communications and Collaboration
- 6.13. MHC IS2030 Workstation, End Device and Mobile Device Security
- 6.14. MHC IS2040 Information Classification and Handling
- 6.15. MHC IS3100 Personnel Policy
- 6.16. MHC IS3200 Awareness and Training
- 6.17. MHC IS4100 Workstation IT Security
- 6.18. MHC IS4200 Identification and Authentication
- 6.19. MHC IS4300 Access Control
- 6.20. HHS Security HIPAA Rules Administrative Safeguards § 164.308
- 6.21. HHS Security HIPAA Rules §164.530
- 6.22. Title XIII American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (HITECH)
- 6.23. MHC CC1113 HIPAA Violation Corrective Action Policy
- 6.24. Subsidiary Contingency Plans

**7. Appendix - Not applicable**

**Previous Revisions:** January 20, 2011, September 18, 2014

**Supersedes Policy:** Subsidiary HIPAA Administrative Policies

**Approvals: HIPAA Council:** May 5, 2010; January 5, 2011, August 7, 2014, October 7, 2015  
**Corporate Compliance Committee:** January 20, 2011, September 18, 2014, December 14, 2015, January 9, 2018

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**Gregory L. Lane**  
**Executive VP and Chief Administrative Officer**

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**January 9, 2018**  
**Date**