



Message from the OSOP

Greetings from the Office of the Senior Official for Privacy (OSOP)! We are excited to deliver a new e-mail series, *The Privacy Pulse*, to equip you with tips for protecting personal information at NIH. We will send this to you on alternating months in which we do not send the NIH Eye on Privacy Newsletter.

Privacy and protecting information is critical to NIH's mission! Whether the personal information you work with appears in hardcopy, on the Web, or is disclosed via encrypted e-mail or over the phone or a secure fax machine, protecting personal information is our shared responsibility. By protecting personal information, you're working to safeguard NIH's reputation and increase the public's trust in our agency's exceptional work.

Stay tuned for future *Privacy Pulse* e-mails!

Tip: Secure Your E-mail

NIH offers a Secure E-mail and File Transfer Service (SEFT) that allows all NIH employees to receive and send encrypted e-mails including attachments to parties outside the NIH. This service also allows employees to send attachments securely through e-mail, and the system tracks correspondence history too! Using SEFT ensures the protection of personally identifiable information such as Social Security Numbers, birthdates and more, and thoroughly secures all data and information being sent via e-mail.

All NIH employees and contractors are pre-registered to RECEIVE e-mails from this application. To obtain SEND capabilities, you will need to register. To SEND a delivery using this service, send your registration request to NIHSecureFileDeliveryAdmin@mail.nih.gov. To learn more about SEFT, please visit the Information Security Webpage at <http://hr.od.nih.gov/About/InfoSecurity/default.htm>

Privacy in the Headlines

Experts Urge Overhaul of Health Privacy Rules

<http://www.reuters.com/article/burningIssues/idUKTRE5135WA20090204>

Obama Administration Outlines Cyber Security Strategy

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/01/obama_administration_outlines.html

President Obama Issues Freedom of Information Act Memo

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/FreedomofInformationAct/

President Obama Issues Transparency and Open Government Memo

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/TransparencyandOpenGovernment/

Mission

The Office of the Senior Official for Privacy serves as the chief NIH privacy governance entity whose mission is to ensure the highest level of scientific integrity, public accountability, and social responsibility in the area of privacy management.

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For more information about Privacy at NIH, please visit us at:

<http://oma.od.nih.gov/ms/privacy>