

MISSOURI HEALTH CONNECTION

“One Connection for a Healthier Missouri”

Fact Sheet for Patients

What is Missouri Health Connection

Missouri Health Connection (MHC) is a non-profit organization that works to improve the quality and reduce the cost of health care for all Missourians. By using health information technology, MHC gives doctors and hospitals the ability to share patient data quickly and securely, protecting patient information through a private Internet connection.

Why should I allow my doctors to share my health information?

Your health records exist in many places. MHC connects your doctors, hospitals and labs to each other. With a more complete picture of your health, your health care team can take better care of you in the doctor’s office, hospital or emergency room. You won’t have to collect your records from different doctors or remember lab results or medication history.

What information will be shared?

Your doctors can share your health record with providers who are treating you using MHC’s health information services. Your records will have your past care such as:

- Doctors’ visits
- Medicines
- Immunizations
- Allergies
- Illnesses
- Test results
- Surgeries
- Treatments
- Hospitalizations
- ER Visits

Your health records come from all your health care providers and may include sensitive information, including mental health services, drug and alcohol treatment, genetic testing, and abortion and family planning information.



How do I tell my doctor I want to share my health information? Your doctor will provide you with a consent form or you can go to MHC's website and download a consent form. Your records will not be shared using MHC's services unless you sign the consent form. You do not have to share your health information. You can decide at any time if you want to allow your records to be shared or not shared. However, if you decide not to share your records, your doctors will not be able to access them, even in an emergency.

Are my records safe and secure?

Only your doctors and health care providers, organizations and professionals involved in your treatment, coordination of care, quality improvement and activities related to the management or payment of your health care can see your records. Information in medical records is protected under federal and state privacy laws. It is a serious state and federal crime for someone to wrongly share your health records.

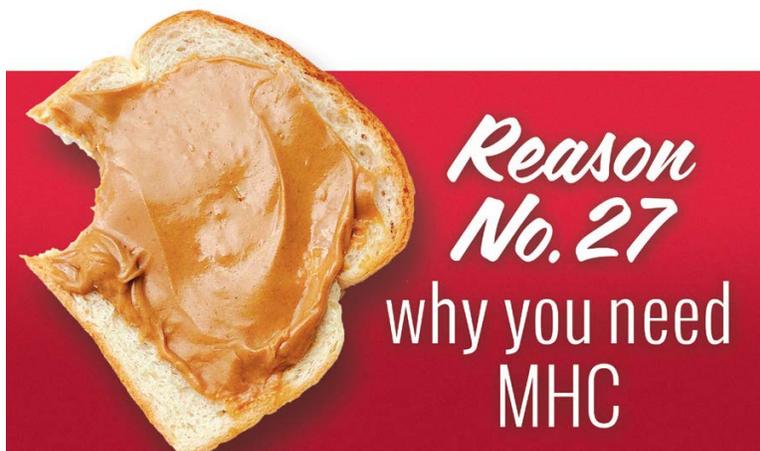
Is there a cost for me to allow my records to be shared? There is no cost for you to share your health records.

What if I change my mind about sharing my records? You can change your mind at any time by completing a form at your doctor's office to either join or not join. Records shared prior to changing your mind will remain with your doctor, as allowed by law.

Questions? Call MHC at 573-777-4550. All Forms are available at www.missourihealthconnection.org/consumers



It's crazy your babysitter knows your child has peanut allergies but your hospital's Emergency Department might not have access to this information. It could be lifesaving! The MHC network offers you powerful peace of mind so doctors, hospitals, and labs work as one for you and your family. Seamless coordination is the new standard of care.



Your 15-year-old babysitter knows your children have peanut allergies but the doctors and nurses in the Emergency Room at your local hospital do not.

Sounds nuts, doesn't it?