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Questions About HIPAA? Patient Brochures are Available in Eight Languages

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The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has published HIPAA Privacy Brochures in eight languages. These brochures are not required but will assist patients and staff to understand their privacy rights. The Cooperative of American Physicians, Inc. (CAP) encourages you to access and print these brochures. You may choose to distribute them to your patients or have them available to answer questions from patients and staff.



However, these brochures do not take the place of your office specific Notice of Privacy Practice or your signed acknowledgement forms.

The two brochures, *Privacy and Your Health Information* and *Your Health Information Privacy Rights* can be printed in Chinese, Korean, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and English. They can be downloaded and printed from the OCR website at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa/> under the Health Information Privacy tab.

Both brochures educate health care consumers about the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

- *Privacy and Your Health Information* describes the HIPAA Privacy Rule and explains who must comply, what information is protected, how this information can be shared, and what rights are granted to individuals under the Privacy Rule.
- *Your Health Information Privacy Rights* describes the individual rights granted by the Privacy Rule, including the right to access one's medical records, the right to request an accounting of disclosures, and the right to file a complaint for a potential violation of the Privacy Rule.

Additionally, the OCR has posted information in these languages about how to file a privacy complaint, and have translated privacy complaint forms in each language. So be cautious about what you are printing and distributing.

The above website is also very useful to assist you with questions about HIPAA's requirements.

- Ann Whitehead, Esq., RN
CAP Risk Management & Patient Safety

If you have any further questions, please use the "Contact Us" button to the left.

Published comments of this information should not be considered legal advice applicable to a specific situation. Legal guidance for individual matters should be obtained from a retained attorney.