

HIPAA

MYTHS VS. FACTS

MYTH

FACT

HIPAA is applicable to specific healthcare providers.

1

HIPAA is applicable to all healthcare providers, storing or handling protected health information (PHI).

Email correspondence between doctors and patients is prohibited under HIPAA

2

HIPAA allows healthcare providers to use multiple means of communication, including emails.

For HIPAA violations, patients can sue the healthcare providers.

3

Patients cannot sue healthcare providers for HIPAA violations. They can file a complaint which is then investigated by authorities.

Exchange of medical records between doctors is prohibited under HIPAA

4

HIPAA allows a doctor to send medical records to another doctor even without explicit consent.

HIPAA regulations are applicable to electronic records only.

5

HIPAA regulations apply to all kinds of patient records, irrespective of their nature.

Calling out patient's name is prohibited under HIPAA

6

HIPAA permits incidental disclosures that may occur as a by-product of an otherwise permitted disclosure.

Healthcare providers can share PHI with employers

7

Healthcare providers cannot share PHI with employer without the patient's consent.