



Commissioner's Corner
February 2023

When uploading to the Learning builder, what do I have to redact from the reports? What is considered PHI? ASHI has these standards written on this subject:

D.2.3: Confidentiality of patient information

D.2.3.1: The laboratory must establish and follow a written policy to ensure confidentiality of protected health information throughout all phases of the testing process. US laboratories must be in compliance with the HIPAA Final Rule.

For the 2023 DRAFT ASHI Standards & Guidance, the ARB is proposing adding the following guidance, specifying a list of things that could be considered PHI:

Re: D.2.3.1 - All patient identifying information must be redacted on case records submitted with an ARB accreditation application.

Examples as follows from DHHS:

1. Name
2. Address (including subdivisions smaller than state such as street address, city, county, or zip code)
3. Any dates (except years) that are directly related to an individual, including birthday, date of admission or discharge, date of death, or the exact age of individuals older than 89
4. Telephone number
5. Fax number
6. Email address
7. Social Security number
8. Medical record number
9. Health plan beneficiary number
10. Account number
11. Certificate/license number
12. Vehicle identifiers, serial numbers, or license plate numbers
13. Device identifiers or serial numbers
14. Web URLs
15. IP address
16. Biometric identifiers such as fingerprints or voice prints
17. Full-face photos
18. Any other unique identifying numbers, characteristics, or codes

Items that are NOT considered PHI include: UNOS numbers, GRID numbers, laboratory sample numbers, etc.