



**Association for Behavioral
Health and Wellness**

*Advancing benefits and services
in mental health, substance use
and behavior change.*

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**Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness to Speak at
SAMHSA Listening Session on 42 CFR Part 2**

Washington, DC (January 30, 2018) – [The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness](#) (ABHW), the national voice for payers that manage behavioral health insurance benefits for over 175 million people, today announced that Rebecca Murow Klein, chair of the Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 and director of government affairs of ABHW, will speak at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) listening session on Wednesday, January 31st. The meeting is intended to solicit information concerning the Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records regulation (42 CFR Part 2) as required by Section 11002 of the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114-255).

The public listening session, which will be held in Rockville, Maryland, on Wednesday January 31, from 8:30am ET – 1:00pm, is an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input to SAMHSA concerning the effect of Part 2 on “patient care, health outcomes, and patient privacy” as well as potential regulatory changes and future sub-regulatory guidance.

Klein will discuss the importance of aligning substance use privacy protections with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for health care treatment, payment, and operations. “Separating substance use information from the complete medical record is problematic and can put patients at risk for unsafe, uncoordinated, and uninformed care,” stated Ms. Klein.

Read ABHW / Partnership oral statement [here](#).

SAMSHA Final Rule: [42 CFR Part 2](#)

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[ABHW](#) is the leading health plan association working to improve access and quality of care for mental health and substance use disorders. ABHW’s members include national and regional health plans who care for more than 175 million people. Together we work to reduce stigma and advance federal policy on mental health and addiction care. Member companies - Aetna Behavioral Health, Anthem, Beacon Health Options, Centene Corporation, Cigna, New Directions Behavioral Health, Optum, and PerformCare.