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Health Care Coalition Urges HHS to Issue Privacy and Confidentiality Rule

Washington, DC (April 28, 2020) – The Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 (Partnership), a coalition of nearly 50 health care organizations committed to aligning 42 CFR Part 2 (Part 2) with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for the purposes of treatment, payment, and health care operations (TPO), today released the following statement urging the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue a rule on the Part 2 provisions in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Safety Act (CARES Act) as soon as possible.

The Partnership commends HHS Secretary Azar and Deputy Secretary Hargan for their continued attention to patient care for those with substance use disorders (SUDs). While the recent changes to Part 2 in the CARES Act will greatly help in coordinating care for patients with SUDs, more specificity is needed to implement the flexibilities provided by the CARES Act. It is paramount, especially given the current pandemic, that physicians have access to all patient records, especially SUD records, to formulate appropriate treatment plans. We believe that HHS can use the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) guidance suspending the prohibitions on use and disclosure of patient information under Part 2 for medical emergencies, issued prior to the CARES Act, as a stepping stone when revising the Part 2 rule.

The Partnership encourages HHS to act quickly to update the Part 2 rule to ensure patients with SUDs do not experience a disruption in their care.

Read the full Partnership letter >> <u>HERE</u>

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http://www.helpendopioidcrisis.org/

Members of The Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 include:

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy · Alliance of Community Health Plans · American Association on Health and Disability · American Dance Therapy Association · American Health Information Management Association · American Hospital Association · American Psychiatric Association · American Society of Addiction Medicine ·

THE PARTNERSHIP TO AMEND

American Society of Anesthesiologists · America's Essential Hospitals · America's Health Insurance Plans · AMGA · Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare · Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness · Association for Community Affiliated Plans · Association of Clinicians for the Underserved · Blue Cross Blue Shield Association · The Catholic Health Association of the United States · Centerstone · College of Healthcare Information Management Executives · Confidentiality Coalition · Corporation for Supportive Housing · Employee Assistance Professionals Association · Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice · Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation · Healthcare Leadership Council · InfoMC · The Joint Commission · The Kennedy Forum · Medicaid Health Plans of America · Mental Health America · National Alliance on Mental Illness · National Association for Rural Mental Health · National Association of ACOs · National Association of Counties · National Association of County Behavioral Health and Development Disability Directors · National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors · National Rural Health Association · Netsmart · OCHIN · Opioid Safety Alliance · Otsuka America · Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative · Pharmaceutical, Inc. · Pharmaceutical Care Management Association · Population Health Alliance · Premier Healthcare Alliance · Smiths Medical · Strategic Health Information Coalition