

State Health Information Guidance

Talking Points

- * Patients see improved outcomes and improved overall satisfaction when health information is safely and legally shared between health care providers.
- * Organizations see improved efficiency and reduced costs when health information is safely and legally shared between health care providers.
- * In the current environment health care providers are reluctant to share information – even when it is legal – because of confusion over the law and relevant statutes and regulations.
- * The SHIG represents the State of California’s authoritative (but non-binding) guidance on when, where, and why mental health and substance use disorder information can be exchanged.
- * The SHIG grew out of comprehensive research, drawing from a broad group of stakeholders to get a clear understanding of the problems different groups were facing in the field.
- * The SHIG also incorporated feedback from patient and privacy advocacy organizations.
- * The SHIG is grounded firmly in reality. CalOHII has a clear understanding of the problems that need solutions. It addresses these issues, and does not expend resources addressing issues that are not real problems.
- * The SHIG utilizes scenarios derived from real user stories to achieve a notable reduction in complexity and confusion, allowing ordinary users to understand how laws and statutes apply to their actual situations.
- * The SHIG is a first step, laying the groundwork for an ongoing dialogue on how to improve appropriate sharing of health information.