

# PROVIDER Bulletin



KERN HEALTH  
SYSTEMS

March 3, 2025

## Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Reminder

Dear Provider,

Kern Health Systems (KHS) is committed to protecting the privacy of the Plan's members in accordance with all federal laws and regulations, including: the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, and California laws the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (CMIA) and Insurance Information and Privacy Practices Act (IIPPA).

KHS expects all providers to follow the standards and practices set forth in the above regulations regarding member privacy and protecting health information.

**As the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare continues to expand, it is essential to ensure that any AI-driven tools comply with HIPAA and other applicable privacy laws.** AI technologies have the potential to enhance patient care and administrative efficiency – however, these tools must be implemented with strict safeguards to protect member privacy and prevent unauthorized access to Protected Health Information (PHI).

Privacy incidents involving KHS Members should be reported to the Plan. KHS will submit potential privacy incidents in accordance with DHCS standards, which require an initial report within 24 hours of the discovery of the incident and a final report within ten (10) working days after the discovery. Reporting privacy incidents regarding KFHC Members to KFHC does not absolve the provider from their obligations to report privacy incidents to CDPH, OCR, or any other governing body.

[Provider Bulletins](#) are available on the [KHS website](#). Please visit the site regularly to stay informed about the latest updates and announcements.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative at 1-800-391-2000, silent prompt option #5.

Sincerely,

Kristie Onaindia  
Provider Relations Manager  
Kern Health Systems