

What are my rights?

As a patient, you have the right not to share your health information with Santa Cruz HIE. You may opt-out. When you and your healthcare providers participate in Santa Cruz HIE your doctors have access to your most current medical history insuring the best coordination of care for you.

If you opt-out, your physician or other treating providers will not be able to search for your health information through Santa Cruz HIE, with these exceptions:

- Your name, address, gender and date of birth
- Your opt-out status

And available:

- According to applicable State and Federal laws, particularly the Department of Public Health
- Your health insurer(s)
- Any other organization(s) that you have given your consent to by contract
- And in emergency situations

Your physicians or other treating providers will still be able to select the HIE as a way to receive your lab results, radiology reports, and other data sent directly to them that they may have previously received by fax, mail, or other electronic communications. Public health reporting, in accordance with law such as reporting of infectious diseases to public health officials, will also occur through the HIE after you choose to opt-out.

Your doctors will also be able to see your health information in their exclusive electronic health record (EHR).

To learn more about the benefits of Santa Cruz HIE, your rights, and to get the most current version of this brochure:

- Call the help line: 831-465-7877
- Visit our website: www.santacruzhie.org
- Talk to your participating provider
-

Complete and return to your provider only if you are requesting to revoke permission to share your health information (Opt Out):

Name: _____

DOB: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

By completing this I understand that my health care providers will not have access to my electronic health information, except in a medical emergency.

By submitting this request, I certify that all information I provide to Santa Cruz HIE is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and I have proper authority to submit this request.



Santa Cruz Health Information Exchange is a community computer information system that helps healthcare providers securely share your medical records. Santa Cruz HIE enables authorized medical professionals and support staff involved in your care to quickly access the information they need to give you the best care.



Electronic health records provide many benefits for patients, physicians and other providers. Patient management and tracking are much easier and readily accessible. In the event of an emergency or disaster, your health care records can be retrieved by authorized health care professionals to ensure the best possible care and treatment plan for you.

Please allow five (5) business days for your opt-out request to be processed.

Why do healthcare providers share information?

Health providers make better choices about your care when they have information on lab and x-ray tests, medical history, prescribed medicines and other reports. Your primary care physician and other participating health care providers can easily collaborate in your diagnosis and treatment. You no longer have to carry your medical information from one location to another, or remember the dates of your immunizations, lab test or radiology exams.

The information shared on SCHIE is the same information that is shared today by paper records that are faxed, hand carried or mailed between your healthcare providers.



Who has access to my information?

- Hospitals
- Physician Groups
- Community Health Center
- Diagnostic and Treatment Centers
- Private Practice Physicians
- Nursing Home
- Home Health Agencies
- Other (Public Health, Health Plans, etc.)

Your providers will have all your pertinent medical information on hand for a quicker, more accurate diagnosis and plan for treatment.

What type of health information is shared?

- Lab and X-Ray results
- Medication and immunization history
- Transcribed diagnostic and treatment records
- Records of allergies and drug reactions
- Other clinical reports

With your complete medical information available electronically to your provider, unnecessary testing will be prevented. Your provider can quickly review all of your lab and radiology results performed at other facilities, eliminating duplicate testing.

How is my privacy protected?

SCHIE and participating providers and health insurers use a combination of safeguards to protect your health information. Technical safeguards include encryption, password protection, and the ability to track every viewer's usage of the system.

All participating providers and health insurers must agree to follow written policies controlling access to information through SCHIE. Participating providers and health insurers are also regulated by HIPAA, federal and state privacy laws. Participants must also have their own policies and safeguards in place, including policies to train staff.

What is e-Prescribing and how does it relate to EHR/HIE?

e-Prescribing enables health care providers to transmit a prescription electronically to a pharmacy. No more hand written, hard to read prescriptions. It also enables health care providers and pharmacies to obtain information about your eligibility and medication history which is extremely important for drug-to-drug interactions. In many place e-Prescribing is the first form of HIE being adopted.

Benefits for YOU

- Improved Medical Care
- Greater Ease
- Greater Collaboration
- Reduction of duplicate tests
- Protection of Privacy
- Safeguard with Emergency Treatment
- Your health record travels with you
- Patient Empowerment – You can take a more active role in your healthcare.

Stay Connected!

Contact us for more information.

Phone (831) 465-7877

Email: info@santacruzhie.org

Website: santacruzhie.org