

Sharing Your Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Data Through WVHIN Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



1. What is the West Virginia Health Information Network (WVHIN)?

The West Virginia Health Information Network (WVHIN) is the State's designated health information exchange (HIE). An HIE is a way of instantly sharing health information among doctors' offices, hospitals, labs, radiology centers, and other healthcare organizations. You can find more information about HIE and WVHIN at our website <https://wvhin.org/>.

2. What SUD treatment data does WVHIN have about me?

Not all SUD treatment providers are sharing information with WVHIN. You can ask your SUD provider if they are sharing information with WVHIN. WVHIN signs up new providers each day, but your SUD provider should tell you if they share information with WVHIN. Currently, the only data WVHIN gets from any SUD provider is a list of their patients. We do not currently receive any clinical data (lab results, discharge summaries, etc.) but this data could be added at any time and would be shared if you select "Disclose All SUD Treatment Data" on the consent form(s).

3. Who will see my SUD data if I submit this consent form?

The provider consent form allows members of your healthcare team, including your hospital providers, primary care providers, and specialists to view your SUD data. The SUD information is only shared with healthcare providers who list you as a patient in their practice or at the hospital. If you also sign the separate consent form for your health insurance company (payer) or care coordination organization to see your information, you will need to choose an organization that can see your SUD treatment information.

4. When does the consent expire?

You may choose the expiration date at the bottom of the form. If you do not choose a date, it will expire one year from the date you sign the form.

5. Can I revoke my consent? What happens if I revoke my consent?

You may revoke your consent at any time by asking your provider to log-on to WVHIN and deactivate the consent form. WVHIN will immediately stop sharing your SUD data. This will not apply to information that was shared while your consent was active.

6. Who will see my SUD data if I don't submit this consent form?

If you do not submit the consent form, WVHIN will not share any of your SUD treatment data. We will shield your SUD data and not share it with anyone. If you choose to submit a consent later, we will share the SUD data with your healthcare team at that time.

7. Will WVHIN share my data with law enforcement or with the court system?

WVHIN will NOT share any of your data with law enforcement or with the legal system. Your SUD information will only be shared with your healthcare team if you submit the consent form and with no one if you do not submit the form.

8. Can I get a list of everyone who viewed my SUD information in WVHIN?

Yes, you can request an accounting of disclosures from WVHIN. This list of providers will include everyone who has seen any of your data in WVHIN, including your SUD data. You can request that list by visiting our website <https://wvhin.org/>.

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9. Can I be denied treatment if I don't submit this consent form?

WVHIN policy is that your provider may not force or require you to submit this form. You must be given a choice of whether to submit the form and what type and amount of information you wish to share with your health care providers and/or payer(s).

10. What is the risk of sharing my SUD treatment information through WVHIN?

When you share your SUD treatment information, members of your healthcare team will be aware that you are currently in SUD treatment or that you have been in the past. Some patients prefer to keep this information private and only share it with specific providers. Your SUD treatment information cannot be used to discriminate against you or deny you care. If you believe this has happened, please contact your SUD treatment provider.

11. Can my SUD provider share information about me directly with other providers if I don't submit this form?

This consent form is used only for you to allow your SUD treatment information to be shared through WVHIN. Your SUD provider may have other consent or release of information forms for you to complete to share information directly with others.

12. Where can I find more information about SUD data privacy and protections in federal law?

If you have questions about your SUD treatment information, please talk directly to your SUD provider. In addition, you can find more information about federal law protecting your SUD treatment information at the SAMHSA website. www.samhsa.gov.