



Statement of Principles: Personal Health Information

Health Information is critical to patient safety and quality care.

Access to a complete record of care, at all points of care, including all patient's health information, drives patient safety, contributes to better health outcomes and reduces harm. A person has the right to have their Personal Health Information stored and shared in a way that meets best practice and legal requirements for privacy and security.^{1,2,3}

Given that Canadians own their health information⁴, it follows that:

- **Useful Form** - A person is entitled to full access to their Personal Health Information in a useful and portable format.
- **Access/Sharing** - A person is entitled to give access to their Personal Health Information to anyone, at any point of care.
- **Informed Sharing** - A person is entitled to be informed of, and in control of, what specific Personal Health Information is shared, and with whom.
- **Complete Record of Care** - A person is entitled to require specified Personal Health Information be included in their records.
- **Accuracy** - A person is entitled to require correction of inaccurate Personal Health Information, pertaining to the person, that is held by any party.

¹ *Personal Information Protection Act*, [2019] <https://www.alberta.ca/personal-information-protection-act.aspx>

² *Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, [2019] <https://www.qp.alberta.ca/1266.cfm?page=F25.cfm&leg_type=Acts&isbncln=9780779762071>

³ *Health Information Act*, [2020] <<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/h05>>

⁴ *McInerney v. MacDonald*, [1992] 2 S.C.R. 138 <<https://scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/884/index.do>>

