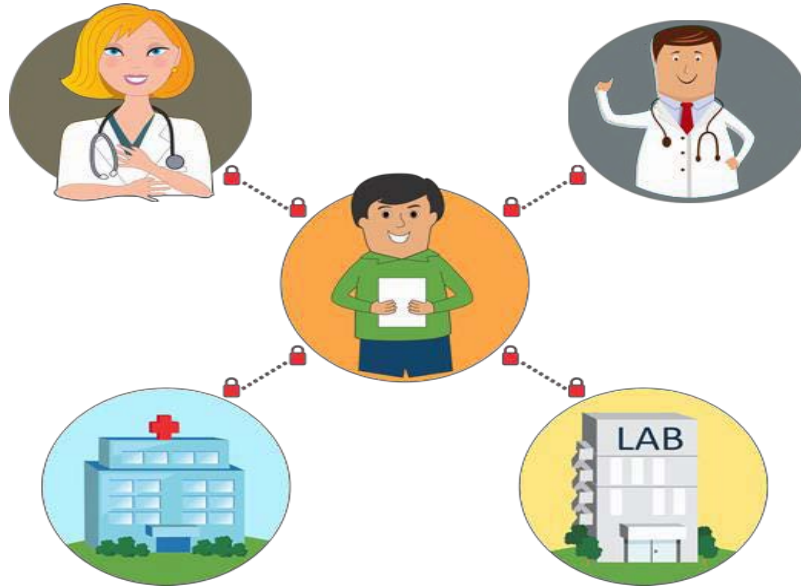


What You Need to Know About Secure Sharing of Your Health Information

Doctors and hospitals can give you better healthcare by sharing your health information electronically. This is very important in emergencies. This sharing is done electronically through the health information exchange (HIE), operated by Arizona Health-e Connection (AzHeC).



Many doctors' offices and hospitals are switching from paper medical records to electronic medical records. During your most recent doctor's visit, you may have noticed your doctor using a laptop or tablet to type in your health information. Now that your health information is stored safely in a computer, it can be shared more easily among your doctors' offices, hospitals, labs, and radiology centers. Your health information is shared securely through the health information exchange.

Secure sharing of your health information has many benefits:

- Better treatment in an emergency because your doctors will have information about your allergies and your previous problems
- Prevention of errors and harmful drug interactions
- Lower overall costs of healthcare by avoiding duplicate tests, procedures and prescriptions

Your privacy and security are protected. For details, please read the **Notice of Health Information Practices (HIO Notice)** you received at your doctor's office.

NOTE: If you do not want your health information shared through HIE, please ask your provider for an Opt Out Change Form. For more information, visit www.azhec.org and click on the Patient Rights button.