

# Secure Electronic Health Information Exchange

Stanford Health Care (SHC), University HealthCare Alliance (UHA), and Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare (SHC-VC) practices participate in secure electronic health information exchange. Our ability to safely share health information with other members of your care team benefits you in many ways:

- 1. Safer care:** Updated and accurate allergy information and medication lists from your other doctors helps make certain we prescribe the right medications.
- 2. Coordinated care:** Each member of your care team is aware of your plan of care.
- 3. Efficient care:** When your care team has access to test results and recent evaluations you can avoid unnecessary duplication of tests and procedures which saves time and money.
- 4. Convenient care:** You do not need to request reports be faxed or carry paper medical records that can be misplaced.
- 5. Engaged care:** Sharing information and test results with your care team helps you actively participate in decision making regarding your healthcare.
- 6. Emergency care:** Your prior records can be immediately available.

Through secure electronic health information exchange, we routinely exchange health information only when providing care and services. We share only information allowed by state and federal law and limit exchange of sensitive health information. We only exchange information if we are certain your name, date of birth and basic information (like address and phone number) match correctly. When you come to SHC, SHC-ValleyCare or a UHA practice, we request available health information from your other care providers automatically and can request additional information manually, as needed. They may require we obtain your written authorization to do so. When you go to other places for care, they may request information from SHC, a UHA, or SHC-VC practices in a similar manner.

Please ask if you have any questions about our secure health information exchange practices. Let us know if you have any concerns about participating in this program. If so, our Health Information Management specialists will discuss it with you further, and you may request to be exempted from sharing your SHC, UHA, and SHC-VC health information via our health information exchange program. Note that request for exemption will not prohibit SHC, UHA, and SHC-VC clinics from sharing information with each other for permitted purposes. For additional questions please contact SHC Health Information Management Services at 650.498.6200 Option 1.

