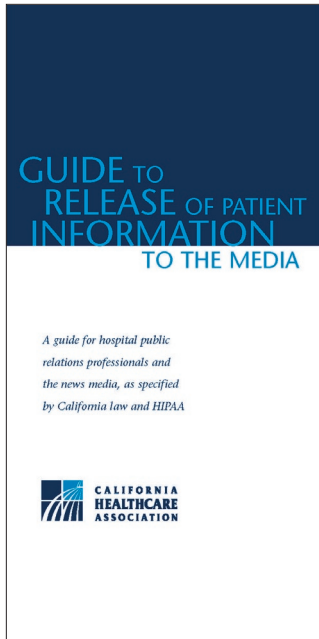


GUIDE TO

RELEASE OF PATIENT INFORMATION

What can you say under the law?



This invaluable handbook helps you quickly understand what information can and cannot be released to the news media under the law.

Releasing information on the condition of hospital patients requires a careful balancing of patient privacy with the media's desire for information. California law has protected individual privacy for some time. Now, the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) adds federal protection to patient privacy rights. The HIPAA privacy regulations strictly limit what patient information hospitals may share with the news media.

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January 2003, 14 pages

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