BLUEPRINT FOR HEALTH DATA USE GUIDELINES

HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY OR ABOUT YOU

The Blueprint for Health conducts research on and evaluations of Blueprint initiatives and health care topics concerning Vermonters. All data and information collected during these activities is handled in accordance with Federal and State privacy guidelines. To ensure that information is not used in any way that might lead to an individual's identification, any analysis or reports will also follow the guidelines below:

- All data is presented only in aggregate. A report or document will not include any information that could be used to identify specific individuals.
- All data is deidentified so that information cannot be connected to the person who provided it.
- Documents will not include any direct findings, listings, or other information that could be used to identify individuals, enrollees, members, beneficiaries, patients, employer groups, purchaser groups, or service providers
- Any cell in a data table with a count of 10 or fewer will be blinded (no data will be shown) following procedures recommended by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- Documents will not include any information that could be used to determine information about insurers or providers that would be deemed proprietary, such as the amount paid by identified insurers or to identified providers for individual procedure codes or products.
- Acknowledgment of data sources will be done in ways that ensure privacy is preserved.

If you participate in an evaluation conducted by the Blueprint for Health, or by a contractor on behalf of the Blueprint for Health, the information you provide will not be associated with your name.

You can find out more about the Blueprint for Health at the Blueprint's website: <u>Home Page |</u> <u>Blueprint for Health (vermont.gov)</u>