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| SAFEGUARDS FOR USE OF ELECTRONIC MAIL | | | | NO. | |
| It is the policy of the organization to observe the following practices for its employees who are granted access to the electronic mail system:   1. Do not forward any resident-identifiable information to a third party without the resident’s authorization, in writing (unless stipulated in the privacy notice). 2. Even if the resident or resident’s family requests that information be e-mailed, be sure that they know the possible risks of sending personal information. Don’t assume everyone knows how e-mail works. Inform them of the possibilities of misdirected or intercepted personal information getting into unauthorized hands. 3. There is some information that should never be e-mailed or faxed. Results of HIV tests, for example, should never be communicated via fax or e-mail. 4. If you receive e-mails from residents’ families that may contain sensitive materials, be sure to notify them when your e-mail is down. Keep a log of which residents’ families use e-mail to ensure proper notification. 5. ALWAYS have a confidentiality notice with a disclaimer on a cover sheet or at the end of e-mail. 6. Be sure you are sending your e-mail to the correct address. DOUBLE CHECK before sending! If you haven’t contacted a party for a while, confirm that the e-mail address is still the same. Keep your e-mail address/log book up-to-date. 7. Avoid location of personal computers with e-mail accounts in an area where e-mail could be viewed or accessed by unauthorized personnel. 8. Security e-mail accounts are maintained with password protection. Passwords will be deleted from the systems as part of the post-employment process. 9. Print out all e-mails and file the hard copies in the resident’s medical record. 10. Only those staff members authorized are allowed to e-mail confidential information; those who are permitted to do so must be knowledgeable about related policies and are properly trained. | | | | | |
| Approved: | Effective Date: |  | Change No.: | | Page:  1 of 1 |