

# What is Protected Health Information (PHI)?

Protected health information (PHI) and electronic protected health information (ePHI) are data created, collected or disclosed during healthcare services interactions that can be used to uniquely identify individuals.

## There are 18 PHI Types:

**1** **Names**  
(full or last name and initial)

**2** **Geographical**  
identifiers smaller than a state, or areas with less than 20,000 people

**3** **Dates**  
(other than year) directly related to an individual

**4** **Phone Numbers**

**5** **Fax Numbers**

**6** **Email Addresses**

**7** **Social Security Numbers**

**8** **Medical Record Numbers**

**9** **Health Insurance Beneficiary Numbers**

**10** **Account Numbers**

**11** **Certificate/License Numbers**

**12** **Vehicle Identifiers**  
(including serial numbers and license plate numbers)

**13** **Device Identifiers and Serial Numbers**

**14** **Web Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)**

**15** **Internet Protocol (IP) Address Numbers**

**16** **Biometric**  
identifiers, including finger, retinal and voice prints

**17** **Full-face Photos**  
and any comparable images

**18** Any other unique identifying number, characteristic or code, except the unique code assigned by the investigator to code data

## What Is Not PHI?

- Data associated with employers or students (e.g., doctors and trainee medics) that are not linked with healthcare records
- Health data that is "unidentified," or data with identifiers removed from the information (e.g., research data)