



Saint Joseph Mercy Health System Objection Information

Privacy Laws allow you to object to certain uses of your Protected Health Information (PHI) if you choose to do so. This information sheet explains objections that can be made, but are not required. If you wish to request any of these objections, please ask your Therapist or Psychiatrist for an Opportunity to Object form, or call 734-712-4542 to request that a form be mailed to you. You may also request the form by e-mail at privacy@trinity-health.org. An Opportunity to Object form may be requested at any time.

Facility Directory

This objection relates to being included in our facility directory. The directory is a list of patients currently in our hospitals. **Your name is automatically taken out of the directory when you are receiving services in one of our behavioral health units.** For services in other areas of the hospital, if someone called in or stopped by asking about you by name, our employees would be able to provide the person with your room number and a general description of your condition (using words like “good”, “serious” or “critical”). If a clergy came in and asked for you by name or by religion, our staff would also share your location, condition and religion with the clergy. If you decide not to be in the facility directory, callers or visitors would be told “I’m sorry, we have no information on a person by that name.” Keep in mind that your family, friends or clergy who know you are in the hospital may be confused or upset if they are told that we have no information regarding you. If you object to having your name included in the directory, please make arrangements with your caregiver if you would like a family spokesperson to be able to call directly to the patient care area for information.

Family Members or Friends Involved in Your Care or Helping to Pay for Your Care

This objection relates to sharing information with family or friends that will help to take care of you or help to pay for your care. **When you are receiving behavioral health services, information is not disclosed to family members or friends without written authorization, unless required by law.** When you receive other types of services, we will share limited information with people who are a part of your care so that they can assist you in your recovery. For example, we may discuss information with your spouse regarding which medications you should take and when. We would only share this kind of information with family and friends who are part of your care, not with people who are just coming to visit or calling to check on your general condition. If you decide to choose this objection, you will need to identify the people we cannot share information with.

Disaster Relief

This objection relates to sharing information as part of disaster relief. Should you be involved in a disaster, we would share limited information with an agency like the Red Cross so that they could notify your family of your location or condition. If you select this objection, we may still share information only if it is necessary for us to respond appropriately to the disaster.