[Clinical-researcher-I] AHS-UCalgary Announcement || Proactive Privacy Auditing Process for University Research Users (Non-AHS Employees)

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Tue 4/4/2023 1:56 PM

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## **Calgary Centre for Clinical Research**

AHS-UCalgary Announcement
Proactive Privacy Auditing Process for
University Research Users (Non-AHS Employees)

To protect the health records of Albertans, AHS, in collaboration with the University of Calgary, is rolling out a Proactive Privacy Auditing Process.

This new audit tool is implemented in addition to the automated "smart-audit" tools that continue to function in the background for all users to flag the most common type of inappropriate type of access – self- or family member access.

ACTION - Please review the below announcement and share it with your team members.

Please direct any questions you may have to Will Fiebelkorn, Senior Specialist – Privacy and Information Management, at <a href="mailto:efiebel@ucalgary.ca">efiebel@ucalgary.ca</a>.

## Proactive Audit Process for AHS Research Access

In compliance with the applicable legislation, regulatory and policy requirements, a proactive audit process has been implemented as of April 1, 2023 to certify appropriate access to AHS systems provisioned to support research. The proactive audit process is deployed to complement AHS' automated auditing tool that maintains vigilance to ensure patient privacy and data security in real-time. The University of Calgary's Information & Privacy Office/Privacy Office will be supporting AHS' proactive privacy audit process for all university-employed users provisioned with direct access to AHS electronic medical records (EMRs).

On a regular basis, a member of the University of Calgary's privacy team will reach out to a random selection of university-employed research users who have been provisioned with direct access to AHS' electronic medical record systems. The researcher will be asked to submit their patient screening and recruitment logs for AHS-approved studies. These logs will be shared with AHS' Health System Access team to reconcile against the user's EMR access records.

What happens if I am selected? Users randomly selected for auditing purposes will be contacted by the University of Calgary's Information & Privacy/Privacy office and will be requested to provide supporting documentation such as screening and recruitment logs to reconcile against their EMR access records.

We appreciate the collaborative efforts of our research community. Supporting AHS' proactive privacy audit process strengthens our commitment to protect the privacy and confidentiality of Albertans and ensures continuity of access to health information for research purposes.

Thank you for your cooperation in this process and if you require additional information or a refresher for privacy training, please visit: <a href="Education & Training">Education & Training</a>.

Alberta Health Services.

cumming.ucalgary.ca/research/cccr

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