PURPOSE:
To safeguard Protected Health Information (PHI) when transmitted or received via facsimile (fax) from inadvertent disclosure to unauthorized recipients in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH) and the associated regulations.

POLICY STATEMENT:
UConn Health will take reasonable steps to protect the confidentiality of PHI when transmitting or receiving documents via fax.

When the identity of the intended recipient is unknown to UConn Health, UConn Health will confirm such person’s identity and authority to receive or access the patient’s health information prior to disclosure in accordance with Policy 2003-20 Verification of Individuals Requesting Protected Health Information.

DEFINITIONS:
Privacy Definitions

PROCEDURES/FORMS:
Procedure for Policy 2003-23 Faxing Protected Health Information (PHI)
Confidential Fax Cover Sheet

REFERENCES:
45 C.F.R. § 164.530(c) (HIPAA Privacy Rule)

RELATED POLICIES:
2003-20: Verification of Individual Requesting Protected Health Information
2003-21: Minimum Necessary Protected Health Information

ENFORCEMENT:
Violations of this policy or associated procedures may result in appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with University By-Laws, General Rules of Conduct for All University Employees, applicable collective bargaining agreements, the University of Connecticut Student Code, other applicable University Policies, or as outlined in any procedures document related to this policy.
Andrew Agwunobi (Signed) 7/14/21
UConn Health Chief Executive Officer

Kiki Nissen (Signed) 7/9/21
Administrative Policy Committee Vice-Chair

Janel Simpson (Signed) 7/13/21
Administrative Policy Committee Chair

POLICY HISTORY:

New Policy Approved: 4/14/03
Revised: 4/15/04, 3/28/05, 5/19/15, 7/14/21