

URI HIPAA PRIVACY POLICY # 24

Title:	USES AND DISCLOSURES TO AVERT A SERIOUS THREAT TO HEALTH OR SAFETY	Purpose & Background	See Memo Entitled "HIPAA at URI: Introduction to HIPAA and an Overview of HIPAA Implementation at URI" available online at the URI HIPAA website
Originator (Responsible Department/ Unit):	URI HIPAA Compliance Oversight Committee	Effective Date:	05/22/2018
Applies to:	All URI Departments and Units Designated as HIPAA "Covered Components" and "Business Associate Components"	Revised Date(s):	

POLICY:

I. Permitted Disclosures

Except as otherwise provided in URI HIPAA Policies regarding Psychotherapy Notes, HIV and Substance Abuse Information, a Covered Component may, consistent with applicable law and ethical standards, use or disclose PHI, if the Covered Component in good faith believes the use or disclosure is necessary to lessen a direct threat of imminent harm to the health or safety of any individual and is to a person or persons reasonably able to prevent or lessen the threat, including the target of the threat. A disclosure pursuant to this paragraph must protect the confidentiality of the health care information consistent with sound professional judgment.