

RHIO Patient Consent

An Essential Step to Quality Care



Patients benefit when doctors have their complete medical history. As a member of the Bronx RHIO, your organization's providers can access patients' electronic health records from other healthcare professionals if they have patient consent.

Remember to obtain consent so that your patients can receive quality, coordinated care.

Tips for collecting patient consent

1. Collect consent as part of the intake or registration process.
2. When a current patient visits the office, always check to see if the Bronx RHIO consent is on file.
3. Make sure all fields are completed for the form to be valid.
 - a) Patients should select a consent choice:
 - Give consent
 - Deny consent
 - Consent only for emergencies (this option is only available if your organization – usually a hospital – has an ED, Labor & Delivery Dept. or ICU).
 - b) Name
 - c) Date of Birth
 - d) Signature
 - e) Date consent form signed
4. Once the patient signs the consent form – regardless of which option is selected – their choice should be recorded in your system's EMR.

Talking points for patient questions

Be positive.

If asked, explain the form's purpose in plain language.

This form gives the doctor permission to access medical information that he may need from your other doctors.

This information can include tests you may have had, medicines you are taking, and recent hospital visits.

The doctor will only request the information if he thinks it can help in providing care to you.

Explain the benefits.

If the doctor wants to order a test, she can find out if you've had the test before. This way you don't have to have the same test twice.

The doctor can compare any tests she takes to previous test results with another doctor.

The doctor can know what kind of medication you are taking before she prescribes you anything.

Respect patients' concerns about their privacy.

Your medical information is still confidential. Only your doctor or certain authorized users can access it and he can only do so with your permission.

You can change your mind at any time and we will give you a new form.

It is not mandatory to give your consent. The doctor will still see you and provide care.