



Oklahoma INSURANCE Department  
State of Oklahoma

**BULLETIN NO. LH 2008-03**

**TO: ALL LIFE & HEALTH INSURERS  
ALL LIFE & HEALTH PRODUCERS  
ALL THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATORS**

**FROM: OKLAHOMA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT**

**RE: Oklahoma Standard Authorization Form**

**DATE: December 15, 2008**

The Oklahoma State Board of Health has approved a new, uniform method for authorizing the release of protected medical and health information. On November 13, 2008, the Board approved the "Oklahoma Standard Authorization to Use or Share Protected Health Information" form. The document's development was the result of two years of work between public and private entities operating under both presidential and gubernatorial executive orders. This collaborative effort was designed to identify and solve the legal barriers that inhibit the timely exchange of health information in order to improve the quality and delivery of medical care.

The form was developed to meet the need for uniformity and eliminate confusion regarding the authorization of release of patient information as required by state and federal privacy and privilege laws.

**The Oklahoma Insurance Department encourages health insurers to adopt the usage of these forms.**

According to the Oklahoma State Board of Health, health care providers are not required to use the form, although they are required to honor it. The Oklahoma Standard Authorization Form and instructions for completing and using the form are available by using the following hyperlink:

[www.ok.gov/health/Organization/HIPAA\\_Privacy\\_Rules/Oklahoma\\_Standard\\_Authorization\\_Forms.html](http://www.ok.gov/health/Organization/HIPAA_Privacy_Rules/Oklahoma_Standard_Authorization_Forms.html).

Questions or comments applicable to this bulletin should be directed to [kathie.stepp@oid.ok.gov](mailto:kathie.stepp@oid.ok.gov) of the Rate and Form Compliance Division, or [susan.dobbins@oid.ok.gov](mailto:susan.dobbins@oid.ok.gov) of the Legal Division of the Oklahoma Insurance Department, P. O. Box 53408, Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3408.

The Oklahoma Insurance Department encourages readers of this notice to periodically check the Department's web site <http://www.oid.ok.gov/> for news and updates to Bulletins and other relevant material.