

## 8. HIPAA

The HIPAA Privacy Rule sets national standards for patient rights with respect to health information. This rule protects individually identifiable health information by establishing conditions for its use and disclosure by covered entities.

- HCUP Databases are Limited Data Sets

HCUP databases conform to the definition of a limited data set. A limited data set is health care data in which 16 direct identifiers, specified in the Privacy Rule, have been removed.

Under HIPAA, review by an institutional Review Board (IRB) is not required for use of limited data sets.

- HCUP is Consistent with HIPAA Regulations

The HCUP DUA is consistent with HIPAA requirements for use of a limited data set.

Further information on the HIPAA Privacy Rule can be found at: [www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa) or <http://privacyruleandresearch.nih.gov/>.