

Business Associate Agreement
Involving the Access to Protected Health Information

The following provisions (Amendment) are added and incorporated into the attached (Name of Agreement) (“Agreement”) entered in between UMDNJ-related entity (“Covered Entity”) and Name of Contracting Party (Business Associate), herein collectively referred to as the “Parties”. Any conflict in the terms of the Agreement and this Amendment shall be governed by the terms of this Amendment.

WHEREAS Covered Entity is the state university of health sciences in New Jersey which maintains and operates (fill in the name of the covered entity);

WHEREAS Business Associate performs _____ work which requires it to have access to confidential health information that is considered protected pursuant to federal, state and/or local laws and regulations;

WHEREAS Covered Entity desires to protect the confidentiality and integrity of the information noted above, prevent inappropriate disclosure of such information and comply with all applicable federal, state and/or local laws and regulations governing the use and disclosure of such information;

NOW therefore, the parties agree as follows:

1. Confidentiality and Disclosure of Patient Information.

- A. The Parties to this Agreement agree that Business Associate, its agents and employees may have access to confidential protected health information (“PHI”), including but not limited to demographic information. As used herein, PHI shall mean individually identifiable health information, as defined in 45 CFR § 164.501 which includes health information that (i) identifies an individual (or can be used to form a reasonable basis upon which to identify an individual), (ii) is created or received by a health care provider, health plan, employer, or health care clearinghouse; (iii) relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual; and (iv) is shared, transmitted or otherwise communicated between Covered Entity and Business Associate (including subcontractors or agents of such parties) in connection with this Agreement.

B. The Parties to this Agreement agree that Business Associate:

- a. will not use or further disclose PHI other than as permitted by this Agreement;
- b. will ensure that all transmissions of PHI are authorized and in accordance with the privacy requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1999, as amended from time to time (“HIPAA”) and will not use or disclose PHI in a manner that violates or would violate HIPAA;
- c. will implement administrative, physical and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the Electronic Protected Health Information that it creates, receives, maintains or transmits on behalf of the Covered Entity.
- d. will use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of the information other than as provided for by its contract;
- e. will (i) promptly report to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of PHI not provided for by this Agreement, including but not limited to systems compromises, immediately upon becoming aware of such unauthorized use or disclosure; (ii) will take all necessary steps to prevent and limit any further improper or unauthorized disclosure and misuse of such information; and (iii) indemnify and hold Covered Entity, its directors, officers, agents, and employees harmless from all liabilities, costs and damages arising out of, or in any manner connected with, the disclosure by Business Associate, its employees, agents, or independent contractors; and (iii) permit Covered Entity to investigate any such report and to examine Business Associate’s premises, records and premises;
- f. will promptly report to the Covered Entity any security incident of which the Business Associate becomes aware; a security incident is defined as the attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with system operations in an information system.
- g. will ensure that to the extent that the Business Associate it uses one or more agents, including subcontractors, to provide services under this Agreement, such subcontractors or agents who receive or have access to PHI that is received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, will comply with the same restrictions and conditions to which Business Associate is bound by entering into a separate

written agreement between Business Associate and its subcontractors to that effect;

- h. will ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom the Business Associate provides electronic protected health information, agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguard to protect the electronic protected health information.
 - i. will, at the request of, and in the time and manner designated by the Covered Entity, provide access to the PHI to the Covered Entity or the individual to whom such PHI relates or his or her authorized representative in order to meet a request by such individual under promptly notify Covered Entity as required by 45 CFR §164.524;
 - j. will, at the request of, and in the time and manner designated by the Covered Entity, incorporate any and all amendments or corrections to PHI when notified by Covered Entity that such information is inaccurate or incomplete in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.526;
 - k. will, at the request of, and in the time and manner designated by the Covered Entity, provide to the Covered Entity such information as is requested by the Covered Entity, including but not limited to current policies and procedures, operational manuals and/or instructions, and/or employment and/or third party agreements, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of the disclosures of the individual's PHI in accordance with 45 CFR 528;
 - l. will make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI available to the Secretary of Health and Human Services governmental officers and agencies and Covered Entity for purposes of determining compliance with 45 CFR §§ 164.500-534; and
 - m. will adhere to the Covered Entity's HIPAA policies and procedures.
- C. **Termination for violation of disclosure restrictions.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Covered Entity may terminate this Agreement and any related agreements, without penalty if Covered Entity determines that Business Associate has violated a material term of this Agreement's restrictions, safeguards or requirements relating to the proper use and disclosure of PHI. Alternatively, Covered Entity may choose to: (i) provide Business Associate with written notice of the existence of a breach of the terms of this Agreement relating to PHI; and (ii) afford Business Associate an opportunity to cure such breach upon mutually agreeable terms. In the event that mutually agreeable terms cannot be

achieved within 10 business days, Business Associate must cure said breach to the satisfaction of the Covered Entity within 10 business days. Covered Entity may immediately terminate this Agreement for Business Associate's failure to cure in the manner set forth in this section.

- D. **Return/Destruction of PHI.** Business Associate agrees that, upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, it will if feasible, return or destroy all PHI maintained in any form (including ensuring the return or destruction of all PHI in the possession of its subcontractors or agents) received from, or created or received by it on behalf of Covered Entity and retain no copies of such information. An authorized representative of Business Associate shall certify in writing to covered Entity, within five (5) days from the date of termination or other expiration of this Agreement, that all PHI has been returned or disposed of as provided above, (including all PHI in the possession of its subcontractors or agents) and that neither Business Associate nor its subcontractors or agents retains any such PHI in any form.
- E. **No Feasible Return/Destruction of PHI.** To the extent that the return or destruction of PHI as provided for in *Section 4* above is not feasible, Business Associate shall extend the precautions of this Agreement to the information and limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the information infeasible. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, Business Associate shall remain bound and shall ensure that the provisions of this Agreement, similarly bind its subcontractors and agents even after termination of this Agreement, until such time as all PHI has been returned or otherwise destroyed as provided in accordance with this section.
- F. **Disclaimer.** Covered Entity makes no warranty or representation that compliance by Business Associate with this Agreement or the HIPAA regulations will be adequate or satisfactory for Business Associate's own purposes or that any information in the possession of Business Associate or control, or transmitted or received by Business Associate, is or will be secure from unauthorized use or disclosure, nor shall Covered Entity be liable to Business Associate for any claim, loss or damage relating to the unauthorized use or disclosure of any information received by Business Associate from Covered Entity or from any other source. Business Associate is solely responsible for all decisions made by Business Associate regarding the safeguarding of PHI.
- G. **Legal Action.** Business Associate agrees that unauthorized disclosure of PHI may give rise to irreparable injury to the patient or to the owner of such information and accordingly the patient or owner of such information may seek legal remedies against Business Associate. Business Associate further agrees that the remedy at

law for any breach by it of the terms of this Agreement shall be inadequate and that the damages resulting from such breach and are not be susceptible to being measured in monetary terms. Accordingly, in the event of a breach or threatened breach by Business Associate of the terms of this Agreement, covered Entity shall be entitled to immediate injunctive relief and may obtain a temporary order restraining any threatened or further breach. Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting Business Associate from pursuing any other remedies available to Business Associate for such breach or threatened breach, including recovery of damages from Business Associate. Business Associate further represents that it understands and agrees that the provisions of this agreement shall be strictly enforced and construed against it.

- H. **Construction**. This Agreement shall be construed as broadly as necessary to implement and comply with HIPAA. The parties agree that any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that complies and is consistent with HIPAA.
- I. **Severability**. In the event that any provision of this Agreement violates any applicable statute, ordinance or rule of law in any jurisdiction that governs this Agreement, such provision shall be ineffective to the extent of such violation without invalidating any other provision of this Agreement.
- J. **Authority**. The persons signing below have the right and authority to execute this Agreement for their respective entities and no further approvals are necessary to create a binding agreement.
- K. **Governing Law**. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Jersey and shall be construed in accordance therewith.
- L. **Reference**: Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45, Part 160 et seq.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement the day and year first written below.

Covered Entity

Business Associate

By: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____