

Nurse Practitioner FAQ's

What does the privacy act mean to NPs?

The Personal Health Information Privacy and Access Act (PHIPAA) came into force on September 1st 2010. PHIPAA provides a set of rules that protects the confidentiality of personal health information and the privacy of the individual to whom that information relates. The Act also ensures that information is available, as needed, to provide health services to those in need and to monitor, evaluate and improve the health system in New Brunswick.

The Act applies generally to personal health information collected, used, stored, disclosed and maintained in the health system by a group of stakeholders in government and the health system referred to as “custodians”. The act defines a custodian as an individual or organization that collects, maintains or uses personal health information for providing or assisting in the provision of health care or treatment or the planning and management of the health-care system or delivering a government program or service. NPs are considered to be custodians. The following link will lead you to a toolkit for custodians and it provides great information regarding this act:
<http://www.gnb.ca/0051/acts/index-e.asp>.