TITLE: PATIENT LINK POLICY	
STATUS: FINAL	EFFECTIVE DATE: August 7, 2015
VERSION: 5	PAGE: 1 OF 3

I. PURPOSE

This policy describes the requirements to perform patient linking within the ClinicalConnect HIE (CCHIE) Repository.

II. OVERVIEW

CCHIE Repository shall link patient records provided by two or more Participants using the MPI Algorithm adopted by CCHIE from time to time.

III. SCOPE

This policy applies to CCHIE and its Participants.

IV. DEFINITIONS

"Master Patient Index Algorithm" or "MPI Algorithm" is a probabilistic algorithm that assigns a weight value to each data field attribute. The weights are scored to determine the likelihood that patient records provided by two or more Participants are the same person.

"Participant" is an organization (including physician practice) that has signed a Data Exchange Agreement with CCHIE.

"Protected Health Information" or "PHI" shall have the same meaning as set forth in HIPAA.

V. POLICY

A. Participants are required to provide the following attributes in order to link a patient's records provided by different providers within the CCHIE Repository. The required attributes consist of the following:

   1. Legal name of the patient, including surname, first name and middle name or initial;

2. Gender;

3. Date of Birth; Year, month, and day (YYYY/MM/DD);

4. Personal identification number assigned by the U.S. Social Security Administration (i.e. SSN).

B. Participants should provide the following optional attributes when possible. Obtaining one or more of the optional attributes will improve the accuracy of linking patient records provided by different providers within the CCHIE Repository. The optional attributes consist of the following:

1. Primary mailing address, including house number, street address, city, state, and zip code

2. Telephone number

C. Participants are responsible for updating patient records provided to CCHIE to reflect the most up-to-date attribute information.

D. CCHIE shall link patient information using an MPI Algorithm. Such MPI Algorithm is based on industry accepted matching formulas. However, the MPI Algorithm cannot accurately identify matching or mismatching patient information in all cases. As such, each Participant is responsible for verifying the accuracy of any linked patient information.

E. CCHIE will not manually link patient records.

F. CCHIE is not responsible for the accuracy (including the accuracy of record linking), completeness, or content of any data provided.

VI.   Revision History

DATE	AUTHOR	COMMENTS
06/18/2015	Erika Jones	Creation of a new policy
09/13/2016	Jones/Szymanski	Reviewed policy – no changes
09/25/2019	Joanne Onyshko	Reviewed policy – no changes Fixed formatting
09/28/2020	Joanne Onyshko	Reviewed policy – no changes
10/04/2021	Keith Dukes	Reviewed policy – no changes