

# It is illegal to email or text anything containing patient data.\*

**ILLEGAL**

Did you know that every time you send an email with PHI in it, you are violating HIPAA. And any time you text with a patient or about a patient including ANY PHI (Full Name, SS#, Address, DOB, Cell Phone #, Credit Info, etc. are all PHI). *It's Illegal!*

- It doesn't matter if you're emailing prescription details to or from your Biller, or contacting a patient for a consent, guardianship form, or even taking a picture of an insurance card to send to your office or biller. *It's Illegal!*
- The fine? Up to \$50,000 per violation. PER VIOLATION.  
It seems innocent enough: Say you intake a patient on Saturday and it's a bare bones crew in the facility. The patient needs some meds so the LPN or PA on duty enters a request for a script and texts the doctor "Patient Joe Rodriguez just admitted to detox, can you please log in to the EMR and approve the order?" *It's Illegal!*  
Or how about emailing a VOB form to/from your Biller? *It's Illegal!*
- Doctor to Doctor, that's ok, right, to email a file from one doctor to another for a consult? NO! *It's Illegal!*
- Doctor texts a PA: "I'll be late from lunch, go ahead and see Joe Brown and give him the Vivitrol" *It's Illegal!*
- Emailing a copy of an invoice to a parent/guardian for payment? *It's Illegal!*
- Emailing a discharged patient to the patient so they can see what was paid and what remains open? *It's Illegal!*
- Emailing a prescription from a doctors office to a pharmacy? *It's Illegal!*
- Patient texts doctor: "Hi, it's Joe Smith, my wound is growing, here's a picture" Doctor replies, "Joe, that looks serious, I'll meet you at the hospital ER". *It's Illegal!*
- Texting a picture of a wound to/from patient or nurse to doctor with any PHI like the patient name in the text? *It's Illegal!*

*The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) says that you cannot communicate any PHI (Protected Health Information) via any means or medium that is not encrypted. Standard email/texting is not encrypted. Pingmd solves the problem.*

## Here's how pingmd solves the problem:

pingmd is a secure, encrypted communications and messaging tool that meets the requirements of HIPAA, and is FIPS Certified. We've hardened and secured our messaging platform, with 6 years of development.

pingmd works independently of your EMR, so go ahead and download it for free at the Apple or Google store.

**pingmd**

[www.pingmd.com](http://www.pingmd.com)



For more information, contact Shawn Lamb, Senior Vice President at 954-684-3610 or via email at: [shawn@pingmd.com](mailto:shawn@pingmd.com)

\* Please consult with a HIPAA specialist or attorney to determine your organization's level of risk.