The Multiethnic Cohort Study

Confidentiality and Data Security

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I CANCER CENTER

USC University of Southern California

Confidentiality of Data

The Multiethnic Cohort has established many fail-safes to protect the confidentiality and integrity of the data.

Training on data confidentiality is required of all staff. Users must sign a confidentiality statement.

The Institutional Review Boards of University of Hawai`i and University of Southern California review all aspects of the study to ensure that ethical practices are followed and risks are minimized.

Data are stored on a UH server behind a firewall and are password protected.

Best practices for data security and HIPAA rules are followed.

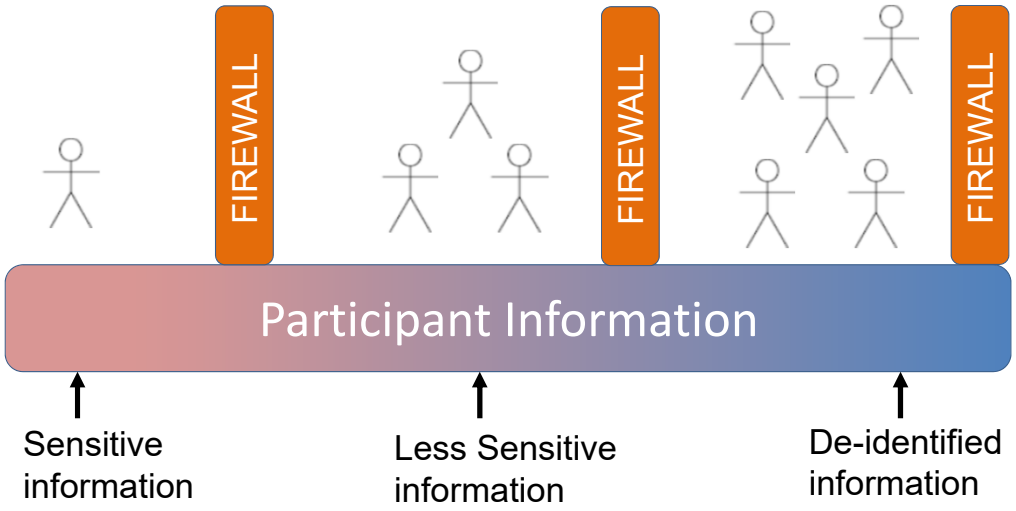
Protected Health Information (PHI) is stored separately from other data and is accessible by a very small number of people.

The minimal data rule means that the researchers are given access to the minimal amount of information required for the task.

De-identified data are provided to researchers. No researcher has access to PHI or to identifiers that link to PHI.

Data access and use is monitored.

Data protection in Multiethnic Cohort



Definition of PHI According to HIPAA

- Names
- All geographical identifiers smaller than a state
- Dates (other than year) related to an individual
- Phone Numbers
- Fax numbers
- Email addresses
- Social Security numbers
- Medical record numbers
- Health insurance beneficiary numbers
- Account numbers
- Certificate/license numbers
- Vehicle identifiers
- Device identifiers
- Web Uniform Resource Locators (URLs)
- Internet Protocol (IP) address numbers
- Biometric identifiers, including finger, retinal and voice prints
- Full face photographic images
- Any other unique identifying number, characteristic