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## GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION

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To ensure the best possible experience for all participants, we have established some basic guidelines for participation.

**By participating in the AHDI Exchange, you acknowledge the following:**

- You agree not to post material that is abusive, offensive, defamatory, or illegal. The discussions on the lists are meant to stimulate conversation, not contention.
- You agree not to post commercial messages (e.g., advertisements, product/service promotions).
- You agree to share information at your own risk. AHDI cannot ensure confidential material to remain solely in the online forum.
- You agree to post your message only to the most appropriate forum(s). Do not spam several forums with the same message.
- You agree to make a good faith effort in providing well-researched and/or verified information when responding to professional practice questions.
- AHDI and participants have the right to reproduce postings to the online forums.
- You have read and agree to the legal policies, disclaimer, and agreement below.

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## LEGAL POLICIES, DISCLAIMER, AND AGREEMENT

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The AHDI Exchange is provided as a service of AHDI. AHDI is not responsible for the opinions and information posted on this site by others. AHDI disclaims all warranties with regard to information posted on this site, whether posted by AHDI or any third party; this disclaimer includes all implied warranties of merchantability and fitness. In no event shall AHDI be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, arising out of or in connection with the use or performance of any information posted on this site.

By participating in the forums, you agree to abide by [AHDI's Code of Ethics](#). Do not post any defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal materials. Do not post any information or other material protected by copyright without the permission of the copyright owner. By posting material, the posting party warrants and represents that he or she owns the copyright with respect to such material or has received permission from the copyright owner. In addition, the posting party grants AHDI and users of this list the nonexclusive right and license to display, copy, publish, distribute, transmit, print, and use such information or other material.

By participating in the AHDI Exchange, you agree to abide by [AHDI's Antitrust Compliance Policy](#) (GOV-005). Messages should not be posted if they encourage or facilitate members to arrive at any agreement that either expressly or impliedly leads to price fixing, a boycott of another's business, or other conduct

intended to illegally restrict free trade. Messages that encourage or facilitate an agreement about the following subjects are inappropriate: prices, discounts, or terms or conditions of sale; salaries; profits, profit margins, or cost data; market shares, sales territories, or markets; allocation of customers or territories; or selection, rejection, or termination of customers or suppliers.

In accordance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule, do not include protected health information (PHI) when using the online forums and AHDI communication mechanisms/tools. PHI relates to:

- the individual's past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition,
- the provision of health care to the individual, or
- the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to the individual, and that identifies the individual or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe can be used to identify the individual.

Protected health information includes many common identifiers (e.g., patient or family names, addresses, birth date, Social Security Number, locations or employers, attending or referring doctors, facility name, medical record number, patient account number, pacer or implant serial numbers, etc.) when they can be associated with the health information listed above. Please refer to [OCR's HIPAA Privacy Rule Summary](#) for more information.

AHDI does not actively monitor the site for inappropriate postings and does not on its own undertake editorial control of postings. However, in the event that any inappropriate posting is brought to AHDI's attention, AHDI will take all appropriate action.

AHDI reserves the right to terminate access to any user who does not abide by these guidelines. For further questions, contact us toll free by phone: 1-800-982-2182 or by email: [ahdi@ahdionline.org](mailto:ahdi@ahdionline.org).