

Frequently Asked Questions – Part 2 History

1.	What Does “Part 2” mean and what is a “Part 2 program?”	In the substance abuse field, confidentiality is governed by the Code of Federal Regulations (42 CFR Part 2) that imposes restrictions upon the disclosure and use of alcohol and drug patient records which are maintained by any federally assisted alcohol and drug abuse program. The restrictions on disclosure apply to any information disclosed by a Part 2 program that would identify a patient as an alcohol or drug abuser.
2.	Can I print the screen showing any Part 2 activity and place it in the patient’s file, or copy the information into mjajy EHR?	<p>RIQI recommends that you do not print any screens containing information from a Part 2 facility. Under 42 CFR Part 2, if you store this information (electronically or on paper), you and your practice are responsible for any disclosure, including to other providers for whom the patient did not provide written consent to have the information released which includes other staff and providers within your practice. In contrast, other providers can access this information via CurrentCare, provided the patient has authorized CurrentCare to disclose information to them. For additional information concerning this question and your responsibilities as a provider, the full text of 42 CFR Part 2 can be found here: 42 CFR Part 2.</p> <p>If the patient discloses to you that he or she is seeking treatment for alcohol or substance abuse, you can record this information as you would record any other PHI.</p>
3.	Will all Part 2 programs in RI be sending patient data to CurrentCare?	<p>No. RIQI has agreements with 3 Part 2 programs in Rhode Island for sending their Part 2 patient data to CurrentCare:</p> <p>Gateway Healthcare South Shore Center (a subsidiary of Gateway) The Providence Center</p> <p><i>Please note: in addition to enrolling in CurrentCare, a patient must give a written consent to a Part 2 program before the program can release information to CurrentCare.</i></p>
4.	Why is this information being made available in the Viewer?	Enabling all clinicians to be aware of patients’ treatment in Part 2 programs will help provide better care to patients treated for substance abuse and behavioral health.
5.	In the Viewer, does the “Part 2 History” tab appear on every patient record?	Yes. The “Part 2 History” tab will appear on the screen for <i>all</i> patient records. This prevents discrimination against those seeking treatment for alcohol or substance abuse. There is only Part 2 information if a patient receives care at a Part 2 program.

6.	What happens if a clinician clicks the “Part 2 History” tab for a patient who does have Part 2 information?	<p>If the provider clicks the “Part 2 History” tab,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A disclaimer will appear on the screen asking the provider to certify an active treating relationship with the patient and a reminder to not disclose this information to others without the patient’s written consent. • The provider can decide to either ‘cancel’ or click ‘ok’. • If the provider clicks ‘ok’, any information from the Part 2 facility will populate the patient’s record in the Viewer, including the clinical summary (which will appear under the <i>Documents</i> tab).
7.	What happens if a clinician clicks the “Part 2 History” tab for a patient who does not have Part 2 information?	<p>If the provider clicks the “Part 2 History” tab,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A disclaimer will appear on the screen asking the provider to certify an active treating relationship with the patient and a reminder to not disclose this information to others without the patient’s written consent. • The provider can decide to either ‘cancel’ or click ‘ok’. • When the provider clicks “Ok”, a message appears: <i>“No Part 2 Data Available for this patient.”</i>
8.	Is special consent required from patients undergoing treatment in a “Part 2” facility, even if they are already enrolled in CurrentCare?	<p>Yes. The “Part 2” facility would need to have the patient sign an additional release to send the patient’s information to CurrentCare</p>
9.	Where can I find more information about substance abuse and confidentiality?	<p>SAMHSA (the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services), released new FAQs on 42 CFR Part 2, addressing the confidentiality of alcohol and substance abuse patient records. With the contemporary emphasis on electronic health records (EHRs) and health information, SAMHSA updated “frequently asked questions,” or FAQs, to better help providers navigate confidentiality issues in integrated settings and systems:</p> <p>Access the federal confidentiality law and regulations (codified as 42 USC § 290dd-2 and 42 CFR Part 2).</p>