

## **18 Identifiers of PHI**

Health information is individually identifiable when the information contains any of the identifiers listed below and health information and the information is created or received by EMHS or any other covered entity.

The 18 PHI identifiers are:

1. Names;
2. Geographic subdivisions smaller than a state, e.g., name of a city or town;
3. Dates (except year) directly related to the individual, including birth date, health care services admission or discharge dates, date of death, and all ages over 89 and elements of dates (including year) indicative of such age, unless aggregated into a single category of ages over 89;
4. Telephone numbers;
5. Fax numbers;
6. E-mail addresses;
7. Social security numbers (SSNs);
8. Medical record numbers (MRNs);
9. Health plan beneficiary numbers;
10. Account numbers;
11. Certificate/driver's license numbers;
12. Vehicle identifiers and serial numbers including license plate numbers;
13. Device identifiers and serial numbers;
14. Web Universal Resource Locators (URLs);
15. Internet Protocol (IP) address numbers;
16. Biometric identifiers, including finger and voice prints;
17. Full face photographic images and any comparable images;
18. Any other unique identifying number, characteristic or code (if a code can be used to identify a person, the code itself is an identifier). Identifying codes include clinical trial; and record numbers, barcodes or other mechanisms that uniquely identify a patient)