

## Public Health Authority (PHA) Status

The Office of the General Counsel, United States Department of Health and Human Services has determined, with the concurrence of the Office of Civil Rights, that the CIBMTR meets the Privacy Rule's definition of a public health authority (**PHA**) and is authorized by law to collect the information necessary to fulfill the legislated mandate to collect data needed to assess outcomes of hematopoietic stem cell therapy. It is therefore not a "covered entity" under HIPAA. Additionally, transplant centers that fit the definition of covered entities may disclose certain individually identifiable health information to the CIBMTR under 45 CFR 164.512 (Privacy Rule), which allows for the disclosure of an individual's protected health information without the individual's written consent or authorization when such a disclosure is made to a PHA that is authorized by law to collect information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury or disability. Further information is available upon request from the CIBMTR.