

### De-identified Data Guidelines

A de-identified data set **may not include** any of the following direct identifiers of the individual or of the individual's relatives, employers, or household members:

- Names
- Geographic subdivisions smaller than a state
- Zip codes
- All elements of dates except year directly related to an individual, including birth or death or dates of health care services or health care claims
- Telephone numbers
- Fax numbers
- Electronic mail addresses
- Social security numbers
- Medical record numbers
- Health plan beneficiary identifiers
- Account numbers
- Certificate/license numbers
- Vehicle identifiers and serial numbers, including license plate numbers
- Device identifiers and serial numbers
- Web universal resource locators (URL)
- Internet protocol (IP) address numbers
- Biometric identifiers, including finger and voice prints
- Full face photographic images
- Any other number, characteristic or code that could be used by the researcher to identify the individual

**Note:** Although a de-identified data set cannot contain a birth date, it may contain the individual's age expressed in years, months, days, or hours, as appropriate, except for individuals who are aged 90 years or more. For persons aged 90 years and above, the age in a de-identified data set can only be stated as being within the category of age 90 or above.