

Proper Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Clinical Setting

- **Purpose**

- Use of personal electronic devices is an integral part of professional practice. Personal electronic devices must be used properly within clinical practice sites.

- **Sources**

- HIPAA Training Study Guide July 2015 - June 2016 - https://www.asu.edu/courses/oasis/HIPAA2015/HIPAA_FY2016_StudyGuide.pdf
- HIPAA - <https://getprotected.asu.edu/training/asu-and-hipaa>
- Federal Regulations - <https://getprotected.asu.edu/policy-compliance/federal-regulations>
- Health Information Privacy - <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/index.html>

- **Applicability**

- All Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation students within clinical practice sites.

- **Protocol**

- Students have a legal and ethical obligation to maintain client privacy and confidentiality. Students will not use personal electronic devices to address personal, nonclinical concerns outside of approved designated areas of the clinical practice site.

- **Procedure**

- Students must review and comply with clinical agency policies regarding the use of personal electronic devices within the clinical practice site.
- Personal electronic devices may be used in clinical practice sites for the following purposes:
 - To address personal, nonclinical concerns during work breaks and/or meals in approved designated areas within the clinical practice site with the permission of the clinical faculty.
 - To access clinical health resources, such as resources on diseases and therapeutics, in approved designated areas within the clinical practice site with the permission of the clinical faculty.
- Personal electronic devices may not be used in clinical practice sites for the following purposes:
 - To take photographs of any item or person within a clinical practice site.
 - To copy or transmit any information or photograph about client(s) or health personnel.
- Inappropriate use of a personal electronic device within a clinical practice site constitutes unprofessional behavior and may result in a disciplinary action per the Professional Behavior and Student Code of Conduct policy.

- o Inappropriate use of a personal electronic device that results in a violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) will be reported to the HIPAA Privacy Officer and HIPAA Security Officer at the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation.