

BETTER OUTCOMES
BETTER EXPERIENCES
LOWER COSTS



Make It As Easy To Get Your Personal Medical Records As It Is To Book An Airplane Flight

Patients should be able to get their electronic health records from their providers and insurers as easily as you can book an airline ticket. This would be a huge relief to any of us who have spent hours tracking down paper copies of our records and carting them back and forth to different doctors' offices.

The Lower Health Care Costs Act of 2019 will:

- **Give patients full, electronic access to their own health claims information** to help them pick the best health insurance plan for their family, find a provider when they need care, and anticipate what they will pay out of pocket for care.
- Ensure the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) can successfully implement interoperability provisions of the 21st Century Cures Act.
- **Incentivize health care systems to keep your personal health information private and secure.**
 - First, according to HHS data, over 13 million electronic health records were hacked in 2018. When administering certain audits or fines related to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), this provision encourages HHS to consider whether **practitioners, hospitals, insurers, and health technology firms have updated security best practices** to protect patients' personal health information.
 - Second, at the doctor's office, everything, including your electronic health record, is covered by the privacy and security protections of HIPAA. Those protections don't always apply when you share your personal health information with third-party mobile applications. This will study what privacy protections currently apply to those third party applications and what steps, if any, need to be taken to keep your health information private.