

# Authorization Forms

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... When you receive an authorization form from another, allowing you to release information to the named party, make sure you read it carefully. Does it authorize you by name? Does it refer to your licensure or functions appropriately? Or, does it authorize "all physicians or doctors?" Does it refer to mental health, counseling, or psychotherapy records or does it refer to "medical records?" Depending upon state law, your records may or may not be considered to be "medical records." The bottom line is that you must read an authorization form carefully, not only to determine if it clearly covers you, but to also ascertain precisely what information you are authorized to share.

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