

Report on Patient Privacy Volume 22, Number 9. September 07, 2022 Privacy Briefs: September 2022

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◆ **More than 92% of patients believe privacy is a right and their health data should not be available for purchase, according to a survey from the American Medical Association (AMA).** The survey of 1,000 patients was conducted by Savvy Cooperative, a patient-owned source of health care insights, at the beginning of 2022. It found concern over data privacy protections and confusion regarding who can access personal health information. Nearly 75% of patients expressed concern about protecting the privacy of personal health data, and only 20% of patients indicated they knew the scope of companies and individuals with access to their data. This concern is magnified by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, as the lack of privacy data could place patients and physicians in legal peril in states that restrict reproductive health services, the AMA said. The survey indicated patients are most comfortable with physicians and hospitals having access to personal health data and least comfortable with social media sites, employers and technology companies having access to the same data. Some 94% of patients want companies to be held legally accountable for using their health data, and 93% want app developers to be transparent about how their products use and share personal health data. Almost 80% of patients want to be able to opt out of sharing some or all of their health data with companies, and more than 75% of patients want to opt in before a company uses any of their health data.^[1]

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