

**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
HIPAA POLICY #26
USES AND DISCLOSURES TO AVERT A SERIOUS
THREAT TO HEALTH OR SAFETY**

I. Permitted Disclosures

Except as otherwise provided in UMS HIPAA Policies regarding Psychotherapy Notes, HIV and Substance Abuse Information, a Covered Component may, consistent with applicable law and ethical standards, use or disclose PHI, if the Covered Component in good faith believes the use or disclosure is necessary to lessen a direct threat of imminent harm to the health or safety of any individual and is to a person or persons reasonably able to prevent or lessen the threat, including the target of the threat. A disclosure pursuant to this paragraph must protect the confidentiality of the health care information consistent with sound professional judgment.

Revised 02/05/2010