

## 2023 Kansas Statutes

**59-2979. Disclosure of records.** (a) The district court records, and any treatment records or medical records of any patient or former patient that are in the possession of any district court or treatment facility shall be privileged and shall not be disclosed except:

(1) Upon the written consent of (A) the patient or former patient, if an adult who has no legal guardian; (B) the patient's or former patient's legal guardian, if one has been appointed; or (C) a parent, if the patient or former patient is under 18 years of age, except that a patient or former patient who is 14 or more years of age and who was voluntarily admitted upon their own application made pursuant to subsection (b)(2)(B) of K.S.A. 59-2949, and amendments thereto, shall have capacity to consent to release of their records without parental consent. The head of any treatment facility who has the records may refuse to disclose portions of such records if the head of the treatment facility states in writing that such disclosure will be injurious to the welfare of the patient or former patient.

(2) Upon the sole consent of the head of the treatment facility who has the records if the head of the treatment facility makes a written determination that such disclosure is necessary for the treatment of the patient or former patient.

(3) To any state or national accreditation agency or for a scholarly study, but the head of the treatment facility shall require, before such disclosure is made, a pledge from any state or national accreditation agency or scholarly investigator that such agency or investigator will not disclose the name of any patient or former patient to any person not otherwise authorized by law to receive such information.

(4) Upon the order of any court of record after a determination has been made by the court issuing the order that such records are necessary for the conduct of proceedings before the court and are otherwise admissible as evidence.

(5) In proceedings under this act, upon the oral or written request of any attorney representing the patient, or former patient.

(6) To appropriate administrative or professional staff of the department of corrections whenever patients have been administratively transferred to the state security hospital or other state psychiatric hospitals pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 75-5209, and amendments thereto. The patient's or former patient's consent shall not be necessary to release information to the department of corrections.

(7) To the state central repository at the Kansas bureau of investigation for use only in determining eligibility to purchase and possess firearms or qualifications for licensure pursuant to the personal and family protection act.

(8) To the commission on judicial performance in the discharge of the commission's duties pursuant to article 32 of chapter 20 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto.

(9) As otherwise provided for in this act.

(b) To the extent the provisions of K.S.A. 65-5601 through 65-5605, inclusive, and amendments thereto, are applicable to treatment records or medical records of any patient or former patient, the provisions of K.S.A. 65-5601 through 65-5605, inclusive, and amendments thereto, shall control the disposition of information contained in such records.

(c) Willful violation of this section is a class C misdemeanor.

**History:** L. 1996, ch. 167, § 35; L. 2007, ch. 166, § 2; L. 2008, ch. 145, § 10; May 22.