

Amendment to the Medical Information Portability Law, 5784-2024 Client Update - July 2025

Dear Clients,

On July 6, 2025, an Amendment to the Medical Information Portability Law, 5784-2024 was duly published (hereinafter referred to as "the Amendment" and "the Principal Law", respectively).

The Amendment's stated goal is improving medical treatment and ensuring better quality continuity of care through better information sharing, while maintaining privacy protections and informed consent requirements. Specifically, the amendment seeks to regulate the statutory right of individuals to transfer medical information for clearly defined purposes primarily those related to the provision of care including, but not limited to, enhancement of medical treatment, preventive medicine, personalized medicine, and proactive medical care, while maintaining strict adherence to privacy protection and informed consent requirements in connection with innovative medical treatments. Importantly, the Amendment affirms that access to medical treatment or services cannot be made contingent upon an individual's agreement to disclose their medical information.

Our firm previously published a comprehensive legal analysis of the Principal Law in August 2024, which can be found <u>here</u>.



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Expansion of Authorized Recipients

Pursuant to the recently enacted Amendment, the statutory definition of "authorized information recipients" has been materially expanded to encompass the following entities:

- The Medical Corps authorized to receive medical information about enlisted soldiers for the provision of health services in accordance with the National Health Insurance Law, 1994, or pursuant to applicable military orders;
- The Prison Service Medical Department authorized to receive medical information for the provision of health services to incarcerated individuals;
- Designated Public Bodies as enumerated in the Second Schedule (including, inter alia, the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Social Services) – authorized to receive medical information for the provision of medical treatment falling within their respective statutory mandates, as specifically delineated in the aforementioned Schedule;
- 4. Additional Public Bodies as listed in the Third Schedule (including, inter alia, the National Insurance Institute and the Ministry of Health) authorized to receive medical information, subject to obtaining prior authorization from the Director, for purposes related to rights or services provided by virtue of their public authority or pursuant to any applicable law, including but not limited to: sick leave benefits, accident compensation, general disability benefits, and benefits for terror victims.

Implications

The aforementioned expansion carries significant implications for both conscripted personnel and reserve forces, and seeks to enable seamless information transfer between civilian health plans and the Medical Corps, both during enlistment and upon discharge. Specifically, the Amendment now permits the transfer of medical information between health maintenance organizations and the Medical Corps (subsequent to actual enlistment) and reciprocal transfer upon completion of military service, in circumstances where the



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service member requests treatment and specifically requests such information transfer, or where ongoing treatment necessitates such information for the provision of appropriate medical care. Regarding reserve personnel, it appears that information transfer shall be implemented on a case-by-case basis when such information is required for the provision of medical treatment.

The inclusion of the Prison Service medical department and various public bodies ensures that incarcerated individuals and those requiring specialized public medical services have access to their complete medical information. This promotes better healthcare outcomes for populations that might otherwise face barriers to comprehensive medical care, supporting the principle of equitable healthcare access regardless of circumstances.

Information Transfer to Public Bodies

With respect to the transfer of information to public bodies, it is important to note that while the Principal Law expressly provides that refusal to consent to information transfer to entities providing services or granting rights shall not prejudice such rights or services, practitioners should be cognizant that such information is frequently essential to enable these bodies to render decisions based upon complete factual foundations. Consequently, such information may be mandatorily required pursuant to other applicable statutory provisions.

Legal Counsel

The information provided in this client update is for general informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or a substitute for professional legal counsel.

We remain at your disposal to provide legal counsel on any matters arising from the Amendment and to assist in the implementation of the statutory provisions as may be required.



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