**Section 2510.80 Confidentiality**

a) All steps necessary under State and Federal law to protect patient confidentiality shall be undertaken by the Council to prevent the identification of individual patient records. The Council will assure the confidentiality of patient records when gathering and submitting data to the Council or designated corporation, association or entity.

b) Information filed with the Council or designated corporation, association or entity by hospitals or licensed ambulatory surgical treatment centers pursuant to this Part shall be privileged and confidential, and shall not be disclosed in any manner unless otherwise permitted or required by law. The foregoing includes, but shall not be limited to, disclosure, inspection or copying under the Freedom of Information Act [5 ILCS 140], the State Records Act [5 ILCS 160] and Section 404(1) of the Illinois Insurance Code [215 ILCS 5/404(1)]. However, the prohibitions stated in this Section shall not apply to the quarterly reports of the Council or the provider data verification process provided for under the Act and pursuant to Section 2510.60 of this Part and those data elements specified in Section 2510.30(d) of this Part.

(Source: Amended at 25 Ill. Reg. 2017, effective January 19, 2001)