

Bethany Life Communities	Date Written: 2-24-2003	Date Revised: 5-1-2009
<b><i>Protected Health Information of Deceased Residents (HIPAA Privacy)</i></b>	Page 1 of 1	

### ***Policy Statement***

Bethany Life Communities will control or manage the protected health information (PHI) of deceased residents for as long as Bethany Life Communities maintains/retains such information.

### ***Policy Interpretation and Implementation***

1. Deceased residents' protected health information will be controlled or managed in the same manner as living residents' information for as long as Bethany Life Communities maintains or retains such information.
2. Bethany Life Communities will recognize persons lawfully representing the deceased resident (e.g., executor, administrator, spouse, child, etc.) in the same manner as the living resident and as such the person(s) shall have access to the deceased residents' protected health information in accordance with current law and Bethany Life Communities' policy governing the disclosure of protected health information.
3. Bethany Life Communities will permit disclosure of protected health information relative to deceased residents under the following circumstances:
  - a. To coroners and medical examiners for identification of a deceased resident to determine the cause of death; or
  - b. To funeral directors, consistent with applicable law, to carry out their duties with respect to the deceased resident.
4. Disclosure of a deceased resident's protected health information may be released to a family member's health care provider for the purpose of treatment if such information is relevant to the treatment of the family member.