

Uses or Disclosures to Avert a Serious Threat to Health or Safety

45 CFR 164.512(j)

A HIPAA-covered entity may use or disclose protected health information based on a good faith belief that (1) it is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of the individual or others, and (2) it is to a person or persons reasonably able to prevent or lessen the threat, including the target of the threat. **[512(j)(1)(i); emphasis added]**

A covered entity is presumed to have acted on a good faith belief if that belief was the result of the covered entity's actual knowledge or because the covered entity was relying on a credible representation by a person with apparent knowledge or authority. **[512(j)(4)]**