



## **Health Information Management - Release of Information – Deceased Persons**

Under the *Personal Health Information Protection Act* (“PHIPA”), an individual’s right to privacy in respect of their personal health information continues after they are deceased. Once an individual passes, only their legally authorized representative has a right of access to their personal health information. Please note that a Power of Attorney does not apply to the right of access to personal health information of a deceased patient. If you are requesting access to the records of deceased persons, please review the information below before submitting your request:

**If you are the Executor or Estate Trustee**, please submit your request along with a copy of the Will (first and last page) **and** proof of death (if the patient did not pass at SJHH).

**If you are requesting records of a deceased person without a Will**, please submit your request along with the “Certificate of Appointment of Estate Trustee” **and** proof of death (if the patient did not pass at SJHH). If you do not have a copy of the Will or the Certificate of Appointment of Estate Trustee, you may still submit your request for access along with any documentation supporting your authority to access information. Your request will be reviewed by the SJHH Privacy Office.

**If none of the situations above apply**, please note that PHIPA provides limited discretion to health information custodians to disclose information under specific circumstances. Please contact the Privacy Office directly with questions or concerns.