

The UVa Healthcare System

Medical Privacy

"Whatsoever things I see or hear concerning the life of men, in my attendance on the sick or even apart therefrom, which ought not be noised abroad, I will keep silence thereon, counting such things to be as sacred secrets."

- Oath of Hippocrates, 4th Century, B.C.E.

Where has your record been?

- ◆ "Medical Records Fall Out of Vehicle, Blown Through Street" – *Associated Press*, May 26, 2000
- ◆ "Prozac Maker Reveals Patient E-Mail Addresses" – *The Washington Post*, July 4, 2001
- ◆ "Patients' Records Found in Unsecured Dumpsters" – *The Daily Herald*, June 18, 2000
- ◆ "Settlement in Privacy Suit Against Drug Store; Children Allegedly Learned of Dad's AIDS from Son of a Pharmacy Clerk" – *Chicago Tribune*, January 9, 1998
- ◆ "Allen Makes Diagnosis of Depression Public; Medical Records Mailed Anonymously" – *The Washington Post*, August 26, 2000
- ◆ "Robert Downey Did Drugs in Rehab!" – *The National Enquirer*, June 19, 2001

Your Medical Records Today

- ◆ Mostly paper
- ◆ Incorrect Information
- ◆ Many organizations have access

