

Multimedia Appendix 2

Anonymisation standards proposed Levels 1-3

HIPAA Category	Level 1 additions	Level 2 additions	Level 3 additions
B	Local modifications according to population density and coding etc (see Appendix C for UK example)		Age groups, rather than ages in years
F	Also social media accounts and/or usernames, Skype handle, etc		
P	Pictures not included unless processed for biometric purposes		
Q	Eye masking insufficient to anonymise photographs(International Committee of Biomedical Photographers, 2005)	Photographs anonymised even to those who know the individual only allowed. This applies to facial photos plus others eg where a distinctive tattoo is included	
R		Sufficiently rare characteristics by themselves can be indirect identifiers. This includes rare diagnoses which should be grouped by category.	
[S] <i>information about occupation</i>			No occupations except by broad categories
ii)			Neither actual knowledge nor <i>strong grounds to suspect</i> an individual could be identified