



Medical Records Retention Guidelines

Pediatric Records:

For Pediatric patients, the law requires retention until the patient reaches the age of **18 years plus 3 years or 5 years** from the last date of records **whichever is later**.

Adult Records:

Maryland law requires retention of medical records on adult patients for 5 years from the last date of record.

Federal HIPAA regulations require documentation of records being released or disclosed for **6 years** from the date of the disclosure.

Insurance plans under federal jurisdiction may request documentation of service for up to **7 years** from the date of payment. Insurance carrier contracts may have additional retention requirements.

Always check with your medical liability carrier for additional retention requirements based on your patient population and medical practices.