The Federal HIPAA Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, or Privacy Rule, address the disclosure and use of individuals’ protected health information. The Privacy Rule permits a Covered Entity to disclose protected health information for the purposes of treatment, payment, and health care operations, including care coordination. A Covered Entity refers to a health plan, health care provider, or health care clearinghouse.

Thus, it is permissible for a child health care provider, a Covered Entity, to share a child’s screening results with Help Me Grow (HMG) for the purposes of supporting care coordination activities. Upon requesting and securing permission from the family, it is also permissible for a HMG centralized access point (which is not a Covered Entity) to collect and store information about children and families for the purposes of supporting subsequent care coordination and follow-up activities. In addition, with consent from the family, information such as screening results or a list of services and programs to which children were referred can also be shared with the child's healthcare provider.

For more information regarding uses and disclosures for treatment, payment, and health care operations, please visit: https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/privacy/guidance/disclosures-treatment-payment-health-care-operations/index.html?language=es

The HMG National Center is a program of the Office for Community Child Health at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and currently supports implementation of the HMG model in 99 systems and 28 states across the country.