



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**  
SINGAPORE

MH 6:01/5

MOH-MHC-0001-2026

02 February 2026

Please refer to the Distribution List on Page 2

**GUIDELINES ON CEASING THE USE OF NRIC NUMBERS FOR AUTHENTICATION BY HEALTHCARE SERVICE PROVIDERS**

This circular informs healthcare service providers of the issuance of Guidelines on ceasing the use of NRIC numbers for authentication ("NRIC Guidelines") and the recommended authentication measures in certain common healthcare scenarios.

**BACKGROUND**

2. On 26 June 2025, the Personal Data Protection Commission (PDPC) and Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA) issued a [Joint Advisory against using NRIC numbers for authentication](#). The Advisory stated that NRIC numbers should not be used as passwords to authenticate a person, as NRIC numbers must be assumed to have been disclosed to at least a few other persons. To help healthcare service providers implement the Joint Advisory, MOH has developed sector-specific Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to assist providers in distinguishing between identification and authentication scenarios, and provide practical guidance on implementing appropriate authentication measures for various healthcare use cases (e.g. patient registration, updating personal particulars, accessing digital services, release of medical documents, and teleconsultations). These NRIC Guidelines were developed in consultation with PDPC and CSA, and incorporated feedback from healthcare service providers in a survey conducted from August to September 2025.

**FOR CLARIFICATIONS**

3. For clarifications on the NRIC Guidelines or FAQs, please email [MOH\\_NRIC\\_Enquiries@moh.gov.sg](mailto:MOH_NRIC_Enquiries@moh.gov.sg).

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## **Distribution List**

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