



The Philippine Society  
of Otolaryngology -  
Head and Neck Surgery



The Academy for  
Head and Neck Oncology  
of the Philippines



The International Federation  
of Head and Neck Oncologic  
Societies



# IFHNOS

## WORLD TOUR MANILA 2018

### 62ND PSO-HNS ANNUAL CONVENTION

### **S3.1 Data Privacy Act**

**Ivy D. Patdu**

**National Privacy Commission | Philippines**

The right to privacy is at the crucible of the Bill of Rights, supporting the right of persons to life, liberty and property. The Data Privacy Act (DPA) of 2012 is a law that is intended for the protection of personal data. It upholds the right to privacy, specifically information privacy. This law applies in general to any person processing personal data, whether in the government or private sector.

The health sector is involved in the processing of information about patients of highly sensitive nature. The DPA impresses the need for all those handling personal data to be accountable for their protection. This means adhering to data privacy principles that assure fair and transparent processing. It limits collection, use, and storage of personal data only to that which is necessary for the declared purpose. The law also requires the implementation of safeguards for data protection, including appropriate organizational, physical, and technical security measures. The Data Privacy Act provides patients with the right to be informed of how their personal information is being processed, and by granting them the right to have access to information about themselves.

In the digital age, information allows people to improve systems and services, generation of further knowledge, and enables data-driven policies. Given these benefits, it becomes everyone's responsibility to protect personal data. This is not only because information is valuable but because this is what patients deserve.

