# THE UNIQUE HEALTH IDENTIFIER RULES, 2021[1]

**[*Updated as on 23.10.2023*]**

Whereas, the use of Aadhaar authentication in the interest of good governance and enabling access to services enables beneficiaries to get the service directly in a convenient and seamless manner and the voluntary use of Aadhaar provides a convenient way to prove one's identity to obtain services provided by the Central, State or Union territory Governments;

And whereas, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (hereinafter referred to as the Ministry) in the Government of India intends to create Unique Health Identifier (UHID) for identification and authentication of beneficiaries in various health IT applications implemented by the Ministry;

And whereas, UHID will facilitate integration of health data across various applications and create longitudinal Electronic Health Record (EHR) for citizens besides allowing de-duplication in various health services provided by Ministry;

And whereas, the creation of UHID will be voluntary;

And whereas, sub-clause (ii) of clause (b) of sub-section (4) of section 4 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (18 of 2016) (hereinafter referred to as the Aadhaar Act, 2016) allows an entity to perform authentication, if the Authority is satisfied that the requesting entity is permitted to offer authentication services under the provisions of any other law made by Parliament or seeking authentication for such purpose, as the Central Government in consultation with the Authority may provide by rules.

Now, Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (aa) of sub-section (2) of section 53 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016, the Central Government in consultation with the Authority makes the following rules, namely:—

**1. Short title and Commencement.—**(1) These rules may be called as the Unique Health Identifier Rules, 2021.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

**2. Purpose.—**Aadhaar authentication shall be used on voluntary basis, for establishing Unique Health Identifier for identification and authentication of beneficiaries in various Health IT applications under Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance (Social Welfare, Innovation, Knowledge) Rules, 2020 read with subclause(ii) of clause (b) of sub-section (4) of section 4 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016.

**3. Entities allowed for Aadhaar authentication.—**Entities which are desirous of allowing voluntary Aadhaar authentication as one of the options for users to create health ID, share health information under various Health IT applications shall be permitted to do so and the extant regulations in this regard shall be applicable to all entities and transactions.

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[1] Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4, *vide* Notification No. G.S.R. 3(E), dated 1.1.2021

**4. Authentication User Agency (AUA) or KYC User Agency (KUA).—**The Ministry will be the AUA or KUA for the purpose of providing Aadhaar authentication services to all health IT application to create UHID for identification and authentication of beneficiaries in various health IT applications. Instructions for the entities may be issued separately through an administrative order or circular.

**5. No denial of health service.—**Since use of Aadhaar authentication service for creation of UHID is voluntary, no denial of health service provisioning in default shall be allowed.

**6. Documents permitted for creation of UHID.—**The Ministry may by an order in writing allow additional identified documents for creation of UHID and health service delivery.

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