

Tips for dealing with Social Media

Facebook

- Remove yourself from Facebook search results
- Avoid the “Infamous Photo/Video Tag Mistake”
- Protect your photo albums
- Prevent stories from showing up in your friends’ news feeds
- Make your contact information private
- Avoid embarrassing wall posts
- Keep your friendships private
- Protect against published application stories

Blogs

- No identifiable patient information.
- No identifiable student/resident/fellow information
- Remember that previous posts can help identify your location and position.
- Consider blogging programs that allow you to lock your posts.
- Remember that anyone who reads the posts can cut and paste or get a screen capture

All Media

- Avoid posting anything that you would not want everyone to read
- Protect all passwords, logons and other access information. Do not use the same passwords for social media that you do for your work, business and other accounts.
- Occasionally “Google” yourself or your postings
- Learn the platform that you are using
- Do not use the same passwords for social media that you do for your work, business and other accounts.
- It is inappropriate to “friend” patients on any social networking site or to check patient profiles.
- Identifiable protected health information (PHI) should never be published on the internet
- Refrain from posting material that is obscene, defamatory, profane, libelous, threatening, harassing, abusive, hateful or embarrassing to another person or any other entity.
- It is never appropriate to provide medical advice on a social networking site.
- Consider setting privacy at the highest level on all social networking sites.