

any in-hospital staff committee or any national organized medical societies or research groups for purposes of research or study shall be confidential; generally describing the conditions and procedures for the use of all such information and for the observance of its confidential nature; further providing that all such types of information shall not be admissible as evidence in any court and in any administrative hearing or procedure; prohibiting the bringing of an action for furnishing any such information to the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty or any of its allied medical societies or any in-hospital staff committee or any national organized medical societies or research groups; and relating generally to certain confidential types of information assembled or procured by the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty or any of its allied medical societies or any in-hospital staff committee or any national organized medical societies or research groups and to the rights and duties of other persons in relation thereto.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to obtain voluntary cooperation of the sources of information in order to collect complete and accurate information for research purposes; and

WHEREAS, in order to obtain this cooperation for the collection of information for the purpose of advancing medical research, it is necessary to assure the confidentiality of the information obtained in the research which would permit the identification of the individuals concerned.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new Section 101 be and it is hereby added to Article 35 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1962 Supplement), title "Evidence," to be under the new subtitle "Records of Health and Mental Research," and to follow immediately after Section 100 of said Article; that a new Section 149A be and it is hereby added to Article 43 of said Code, title "Health," to follow immediately after Section 149 thereof, and to be under the subtitle "Practitioners of Medicine"; and that a new Section 10 be and it is hereby added to Article 75C of said Code, title "Prohibited Actions," to follow immediately after Section 9 thereof, and to be under the new subtitle "Health and Mental Research," and all to read as follows:

Article 35

Records of Health and Mental Research

101.

The records, reports, statements, notes or other information described in Section 149A of Article 43 of this Code, assembled or procured by the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty or any of its allied medical societies or any in-hospital staff committee or any national organized medical societies or research groups for the purposes there specified, are not admissible as evidence in any court or in any administrative hearing or procedure; and the employees or agents of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty or any of its allied medical societies or any in-hospital staff committee or any national organized medical societies or research groups shall not be compelled to divulge any of such records, reports, statements, notes, or other information.