

# IHS Disclaimer, Comment Policy and Privacy Notice for Social Media Profiles and Channels



## Comment Policy

It is the goal of IHS to maintain respectful conversations on all new/social media tools that engage the public via the option to comment.

IHS acts in accordance to the comment policy from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Digital Communications Division, which is as follows:

- Stay focused. All viewpoints are welcome, but comments should remain relevant to the Indian Health Service and the associated content.
- Be respectful. Personal attacks, profanity, and aggressive behavior are prohibited. Instigating arguments in a disrespectful way is also prohibited.
- Tell the truth. Spreading misleading or false information is prohibited.
- No spam. Repeated posting of identical or very similar content in a counter-productive manner is prohibited this includes posts aggressively promoting services or products.
- No personal information. Please do not post phone numbers, email addresses, and any other personal identifiable information (PII).

We retain the discretion to determine which comments violate our comment policy. We also reserve the right to remove and/or not allow comments to get posted. The views expressed within posted comments do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, or the federal government.

We recognize that the Web is a 24/7 medium, and your comments are welcome at any time. However, given the need to manage federal resources (your tax dollars), moderating and posting comments should only be expected to occur during regular business hours.

Reporters are asked to send questions to the necessary media office through their normal channels and to refrain from submitting questions here as comments or direct messages. Reporter questions will not be posted nor answered.

Thank you for taking the time to review our comment policy. We encourage your participation in our discussion and look forward to an active exchange of ideas.

## **Privacy Statement**

This is an Indian Health Service social media channel/profile. If you're looking for the official and most comprehensive source of information about the IHS, please visit our official website at <https://www.ihs.gov>.

Please note that this social media channel is not a government website or application; it is controlled or operated by the respective social media channel company. If you have an account, and choose to follow, like, friend, or comment, certain PII associated with your account may be made available based on the privacy policies of this social media channel and your privacy settings. Although you may voluntarily contribute to this social media channel with the intent to share the information with others on an IHS social media profile/channel, to protect your privacy, please do not disclose PII about yourself or others.

IHS does not collect personally identifiable information such as your name, address, or telephone number from third-party websites. IHS will not contact you directly via phone, mail, or email attempting to solicit information from you. Comments posted on this social media channel and messages received through this social media channel are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act and may be archived. Learn more about your privacy at <http://www.hhs.gov/Privacy.html>.

For further information or questions please email [socialmedia@ihs.gov](mailto:socialmedia@ihs.gov).

## **Medical Disclaimer**

Advice on treatment or care of an individual patient should be obtained through consultation with a physician or other health professional that has examined the patient and is familiar with the patient's medical history.