

HIPAA

Monthly Alert

NOVEMBER 2018

HIPAA Made Simple

HIPAA rules give individuals control of how their personal health information gets used. HIPAA is an acronym for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. The act was first created to force the healthcare industry to save money by computerizing paper records. This act led to privacy concerns that created new regulations from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Facts About HIPAA

1. Healthcare providers and insurance companies are required to explain how health information is used and disclosed.
2. A person can request their health information history, copies of their health information, and make appropriate changes to their health information.
3. Formal consent must be given to share a person's health information.
4. A person reserves the right to file a complaint(s) to the HHS concerning violations of HIPAA rules.
5. Health information can be used for health purposes only. Without consent, it can't be used to help banks decide whether to give a loan or by potential employers to decide whether to give an individual a job.
6. When any health information gets shared, only the minimum necessary amount of information should be disclosed.
7. Psychotherapy records get an extra level of protection.

Reference:

<https://www.webmd.com/healthy-aging/news/20030422/hipaa-rules-explained#1>

Please look for next month's HIPAA alert delivered through your email.
You can also find the HIPAA monthly alerts on Employee Self Service (ESS).

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