


# **CYBERSECURITY**

**Recent OCR Actions & Cyber Awareness Newsletters**

**Claire C. Rosston**

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## SOURCES

1. <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/compliance-enforcement/agreements>
2. <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/security/guidance/cybersecurity/cybersecurity-newsletter-archive/index.html?language=es>
3. <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/security/index.html>

## AGENDA



Security traps demonstrated by recent OCR settlements and penalties

Focus: Improving your risk assessment



OCR guidance on mobile devices



OCR guidance on man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks


# RECENT OCR ACTIONS

# FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE NORTH AMERICA

February 1, 2018: \$3.5 million settlement and corrective action plan

Laptops, desktops and a USB drive, some of which were unencrypted, were stolen or lost in 5 incidents over 6 months (521 ePHI records)

## HHS OCR's findings of HIPAA violations

- Inadequate risk assessment
- Unauthorized access
- Failed to implement policies and procedures regarding:
  - Safeguarding its facilities and equipment from unauthorized access, tampering and theft
  - Receipt and removal of hardware and electronic media containing ePHI
  - Mechanism to encrypt and decrypt ePHI
  - Addressing security incidents
  - Use and access of workstations containing ePHI

Source: <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/compliance-enforcement/agreements/FMCNA/index.html>

## Corrective action plan requires Fresenius to:

- Complete a risk analysis and risk management plan
- Develop policies and procedures to regularly evaluate environmental or operational changes affecting the security of ePHI
- Implement encryption of hardware and electronic media
- Revise policies and procedures regarding:
  - Receipt and removal of hardware and electronic media
  - Physical access to electronic information systems and facilities
- Augment existing mandatory workforce training program
- Submit to HHS OCR reports on encryption and training as well as annual reports

Source: <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/compliance-enforcement/agreements/FMCNA/index.html>

## 21ST CENTURY ONCOLOGY, INC.

December 28, 2017: \$2.3 million settlement and corrective action plan

Unauthorized access to network database through remote desktop protocol (2,213,597 ePHI records)

HHS OCR's findings of HIPAA violations

- Inadequate risk assessment
- Insufficient security measures
- Failed to implement procedures to regularly review records of information system activity, such as audit logs, access reports and security incident tracking reports
- Disclosed ePHI to third party vendors without BAAs

Source: <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/compliance-enforcement/agreements/21CO/index.html>



## 21ST CENTURY ONCOLOGY, INC.

### Corrective action plan requires 21st Century to:

- Complete a risk analysis and risk management plan
- Revise policies and procedures
- Educate its workforce on policies and procedures
- Provide list of all business associates and copies of all maintained BAAs to HHS OCR
- Set up an internal monitoring plan for compliance with settlement requirements
- Hire third party assessor to review compliance at least annually
- Set up an internal reporting system for all workforce to report violations of HIPAA policies and procedures
- Submit annual reports to HHS OCR

Source: <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/compliance-enforcement/agreements/21CO/index.html>

## OTHER OCR ACTIONS IN 2017

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\$2.5 million settlement for insufficient risk analysis and risk management plan and draft policies and procedures (CardioNet)

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\$400,000 settlement for delayed and insufficient risk analysis (Metro Community Provider Network)

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\$5.5 million settlement for failure to implement workforce access policies and procedures and audit controls (Memorial Healthcare System)

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\$2.3 million penalty for ineffective physical controls and no risk management plan (Children's Medical Center of Dallas)

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\$2.2 million settlement for no risk analysis or risk management plan and delayed corrective measures (MAPFRE Life Insurance of Puerto Rico)

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Other smaller settlements for no BAA and untimely breach notification

Source: <https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/newsroom/>


# IMPROVING YOUR RISK ANALYSIS

# HIPAA SECURITY RULE

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## General requirements:

(1) Ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of all electronic protected health information the covered entity or business associate creates, receives, maintains or transmits

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(2) Protect against any reasonably anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of such information

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(3) Protect against any reasonably anticipated unauthorized uses or disclosures of such information

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(4) Workforce compliance

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# HIPAA SECURITY RULE

Requires compliance with security standards and required and addressable implementation specifications

## Flexible approach:

- (1) May choose security measures that are reasonable and appropriate
- (2) Factors to consider:
  - size, complexity and capabilities
  - technical infrastructure, hardware and software security capabilities
  - costs of security measures
  - probability and criticality of potential risks to ePHI

# HIPAA SECURITY RULE

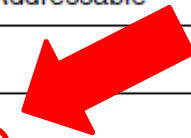
Requires regular review and modification of security measures

Requires documenting actions, activities, assessments, policies and procedures in writing

- Retain for 6 years
- Make available to people implementing procedures
- Review periodically and update as needed

# ADMINISTRATIVE SAFEGUARDS

Standards	Sections	Implementation Specifications (R)=Required, (A)=Addressable
<b>Administrative Safeguards</b>		
Security Management Process .....	164.308(a)(1)	Risk Analysis (R) Risk Management (R)
Assigned Security Responsibility .....	164.308(a)(2)	Sanction Policy (R)
Workforce Security .....	164.308(a)(3)	Information System Activity Review (R) (R) Authorization and/or Supervision (A) Workforce Clearance Procedure Termination Procedures (A)
Information Access Management .....	164.308(a)(4)	Isolating Health care Clearinghouse Function (R) Access Authorization (A) Access Establishment and Modification (A)
Security Awareness and Training .....	164.308(a)(5)	Security Reminders (A) Protection from Malicious Software (A) Log-in Monitoring (A) Password Management (A)
Security Incident Procedures .....	164.308(a)(6)	Response and Reporting (R)
Contingency Plan .....	164.308(a)(7)	Data Backup Plan (R) Disaster Recovery Plan (R) Emergency Mode Operation Plan (R) Testing and Revision Procedure (A)
Evaluation .....	164.308(a)(8)	Applications and Data Criticality Analysis (A) (R)
Business Associate Contracts and Other Arrangement.	164.308(b)(1)	Written Contract or Other Arrangement (R)



# PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS

Standards	Sections	Implementation Specifications (R)=Required, (A)=Addressable
<b>Physical Safeguards</b>		
Facility Access Controls .....	164.310(a)(1)	Contingency Operations (A) Facility Security Plan (A) Access Control and Validation Procedures (A) Maintenance Records (A)
Workstation Use .....	164.310(b)	(R)
Workstation Security .....	164.310(c)	(R)
Device and Media Controls .....	164.310(d)(1)	Disposal (R) Media Re-use (R) Accountability (A) Data Backup and Storage (A)



# TECHNICAL SAFEGUARDS

Standards	Sections	Implementation Specifications (R)=Required, (A)=Addressable
<b>Technical Safeguards</b> (see § 164.312)		
Access Control .....	164.312(a)(1)	Unique User Identification (R) Emergency Access Procedure (R) Automatic Logoff (A) Encryption and Decryption (A)
Audit Controls .....	164.312(b)	(R)
Integrity .....	164.312(c)(1)	Mechanism to Authenticate Electronic Protected Health In-formation (A)
Person or Entity Authentication .....	164.312(d)	(R)
Transmission Security .....	164.312(e)(1)	Integrity Controls (A) Encryption (A)

# Security Risk Assessment Tool

- <https://www.healthit.gov/providers-professionals/security-risk-assessment-tool>
- Windows and iPad version
- Paper versions
- User guide
- 156 questions
- No guarantee of compliant results
- Can document answers, comments and plans in tool



# Security Risk Assessment Tool

[Tutorial](#)Current User: none | [Logout](#) | [www.HealthIT.gov](#)

## Security Risk Assessments

The HIPAA Security Rule requires covered entities to conduct a risk assessment to identify risks and vulnerabilities to electronic protected health information (e-PHI). Risk assessment is the first step in an organization's Security Rule compliance efforts. Following HIPAA risk assessment guidelines will help you establish the safeguards you need to implement based on the unique circumstances of your health care practice.

Risk assessment is an ongoing process that should provide your medical practice with a detailed understanding of the risks to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of e-PHI. HIPAA requires that covered entities "implement policies and procedures to prevent, detect, contain, and correct security violations" by conducting "an accurate and thorough assessment of the potential risks and vulnerabilities to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of e-PHI held by the [organization]." Performing a security risk assessment and mitigating the findings is also a requirement for providers attesting to "Meaningful Use" under the CMS EHR Incentive Program.

Providers should develop a risk assessment that addresses these criteria by evaluating the impact and likelihood of potential breaches, implementing security features, cataloguing security features, and maintaining security protections.

[Users](#)[About Your Practice](#)[Business Associates](#)[Asset Inventory](#)



# Security Risk Assessment Tool

Tutorial

Current User: cms | Logout | www.HealthIT.gov

A57

### §164.308(a)(8) - Standard

Does your practice maintain and implement policies and procedures for assessing risk to ePHI and engaging in a periodic technical and non-technical evaluation in response to environmental or operational changes affecting the security of your practice's ePHI?

Yes  No  Flag

Which best explains your reason for answering NO:

Cost  Practice Size  Complexity  Alternate Solution

Current Activities	Notes	Remediation

With respect to a threat/vulnerability affecting your ePHI:

Likelihood:  Low  Medium  High

Impact:  Low  Medium  High

Things to Consider

Threats and Vulnerabilities

Examples of Safeguards

Your practice may not be able to safeguard its ePHI against risks due to environmental and operational changes if it does not engage in periodic evaluations, both technical and non-technical.

Some potential impacts include:

- Unauthorized or inappropriate access to ePHI can compromise the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of your practice's ePHI.
- Unauthorized disclosure, loss, or theft of ePHI can lead to medical identity theft.
- Accurate ePHI may not be available when needed, which can adversely impact your healthcare professionals' ability to diagnose and treat their patients.

Previous Question

Next Question

Report

Glossary

Navigator

Related Info

Export

# NIST 800-30: RISK ASSESSMENT

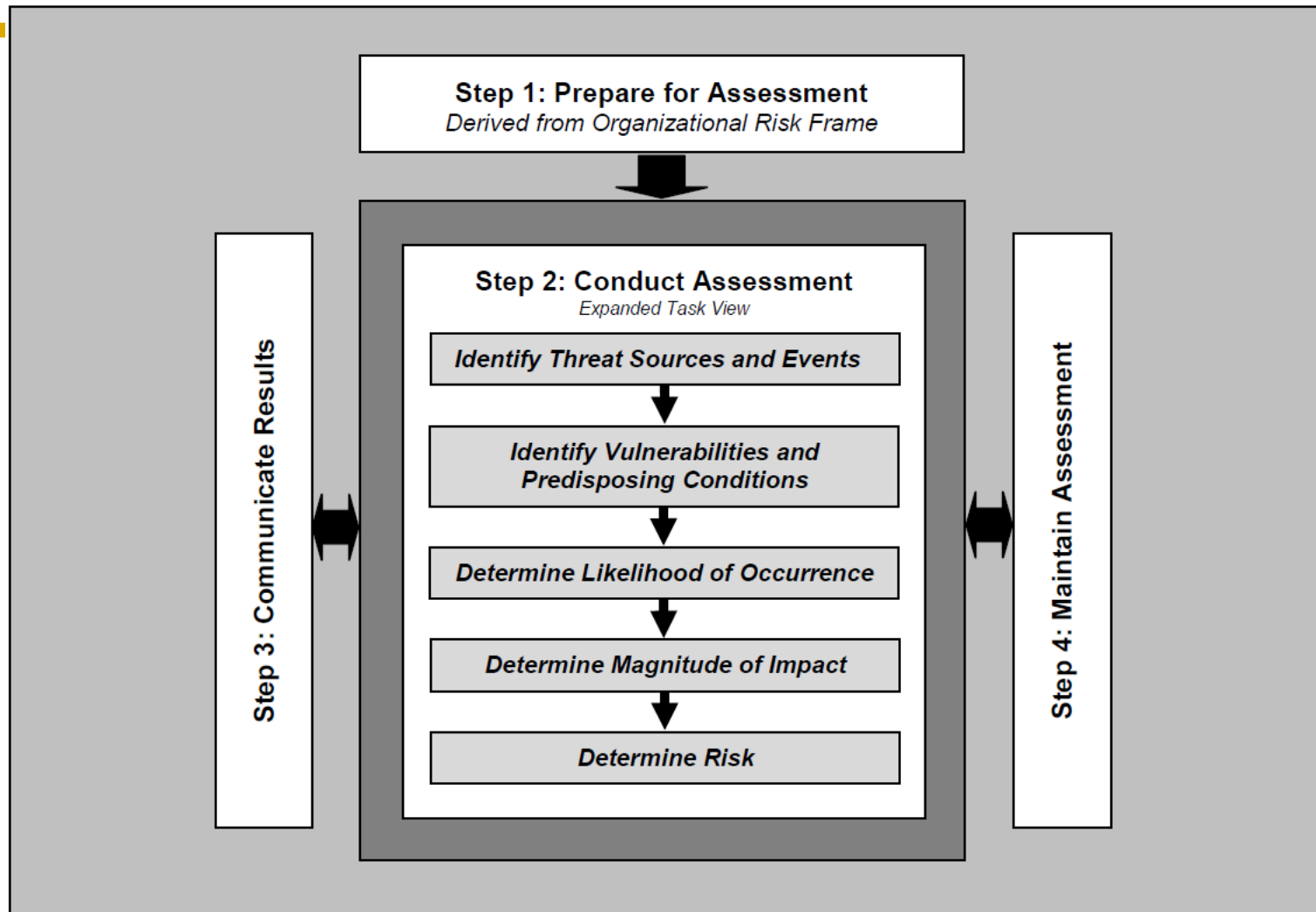


FIGURE 5: RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Source: <http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-30r1.pdf>

# VULNERABILITIES

Flaws or weaknesses in system security procedures, design, implementation or internal controls

- Technology: bugs, misconfiguration, inherent weakness
- People: social engineering, poor choices
- Process: defects, data handling

ePHI records for sale:

- Russian-speaking hacker is offering access to 2 medical offices (15,000 New York patient records and 11,000 Michigan patient records)
- Both offices use eClinicalWorks software but hacker claims access was obtained via compromised virtual network computing (VNC) protocol

## SOURCES OF KNOWN VULNERABILITIES

US-CERT

- <https://www.us-cert.gov/ mailing-lists-and-feeds>

CVE: Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures

- <https://cve.mitre.org/index.html>

NVD: National Vulnerability Database

- <https://nvd.nist.gov/>

### Common Mistakes:

- Failure to account for third-party risk
  - SAAS, Cloud, Business Associates
  - Right to audit over-reliance in absence of SOC 2
  - Misunderstanding of SOC 1 vs. SOC 2 reports
- Failure to completely inventory ePHI and systems
- Not conducting a risk assessment as defined, opting for gap analysis
- No risk assessment at all
- No minutes of board deliberations or documentation of management action



# ACTION ITEMS

When you return to work:

- Identify when your next risk assessment is due
- Review last risk assessment
- Identify shortcomings

30 days:

- Discuss noted shortcomings with management
- Assign accountable party to plan for upcoming risk assessment to address observed weaknesses, based on OCR guidance

90 days:

- Complete inventory of: ePHI, storage media, transmission, systems and endpoints

180 days:

- Conduct an improved risk assessment


# RECENT OCR NEWSLETTERS

# MOBILE DEVICES

## Risks

- Greater risk of being lost or stolen
- Unsecure settings and connectivity

If devices are not allowed to be used for activities involving ePHI, develop and implement policies and procedures that make this prohibition clear

# MOBILE DEVICES

Properly configure and secure devices

- Consider using Mobile Device Management (MDM) software to manage and secure mobile devices
- Install or enable automatic lock/logoff functionality
- Require authentication to use or unlock mobile devices
- Install or enable encryption, anti-virus/anti-malware software and remote wipe capabilities
- Use only secure Wi-Fi connections
- Use a secure Virtual Private Network (VPN)

# MOBILE DEVICES

Regularly install security patches and updates

Consider using Mobile Device Management (MDM) software to manage and secure mobile devices

Use a privacy screen to prevent people close by from reading information on your screen

Reduce risks posed by third-party apps by prohibiting the downloading of third-party apps, using whitelisting to allow installation of only approved apps, securely separating ePHI from apps and verifying that apps only have the minimum necessary permissions required

Train workforce on how to securely use mobile devices

Securely delete all ePHI stored on a mobile device before discarding or reusing the mobile device

# MAN-IN-THE-MIDDLE ATTACKS

MITM attacks: third party intercepts communications (e.g., ePHI) and may alter information or inject malicious code

Some organizations use Secure Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTPS) for end-to-end connection security and HTTPS interception products to detect malware over the HTTPS connection

Many HTTPS interception products are inadequate (see <https://insights.sei.cmu.edu/cert/2015/03/the-risks-of-ssl-inspection.html> for partial list)

Use <https://badssl.com/> to determine if your HTTPS interception product is inadequate

See US-CERT's other recommendations regarding MITM attacks at <https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA15-120A>

**THANKS FOR  
COMING!**

**Claire C. Rosston**

[ccrosston@hollandhart.com](mailto:ccrosston@hollandhart.com)

