

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

Physicians Still Lag on HIPAA, Survey Says

The compliance deadline for the HIPAA privacy rule has come and gone - but physicians still have their work cut out.

According to a recent survey by the **Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society** and **Phoenix Health Systems**, 78 percent of providers said they were HIPAA-compliant by the April 14 deadline - up from 9 percent who touted their compliance in January.

But between 10 percent and 40 percent of "privacy-compliant" providers still aren't up to speed on obtaining all required business associate agreements, monitoring organizational compliance, implementing security protections required under the privacy rule, employing appropriate "minimum necessary" restrictions, and maintaining an accounting of disclosures.