

Eli's Rehab Report

News Briefs: Time's Run Out for Red Flags Rule Compliance

No more putting off your practice's identity theft program. As of June 1, 2010, healthcare providers, including rehab providers, must comply with the Federal Trade Commission's Red Flags Rule if they are considered creditors. In other words, if you accept insurance from patients and bill them after providing your services, you are a creditor under the Red Flags Rule and must develop an identity theft program.

Long time coming: The FTC has been providing extensions to the identity theft program deadline since November 2008, so it likely won't be lenient if you still don't have a plan in place by now.

Need last-minute help? The FTC has posted guidance, including a plan template, on its Red Flags Rule website, according to News Now. Visit www.ftc.gov/redflagsrule.