

Health Information Compliance Alert

In other news...

You'd better make sure your HIPAA policies and procedures are up to snuff. The feds may be getting more serious about investigating HIPAA violations.

In addition to the **HHS Office of Inspector General** conducting its first HIPAA security rule audit this spring, the **Department of Health and Human Services** has granted subpoena power to the **HHS Office for Civil Rights**. OCR is in charge of HIPAA enforcement.

The authority covers "subpoenas in investigations of alleged violations of the HIPAA Privacy Rule and of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005," the HHS OCR Web site notes.

- As every disease-management administrator knows, communication with patients is paramount. Now, a new automated-calling system is on the market that can help them to stay in touch.

Silverlink, a provider of health-care-specific automated call services, has announced a new suite of solutions and services supporting Health and Disease Management program outreach.

The HIPAA-compliant, interactive phone calls will reach patients with chronic illnesses and are designed to increase the efficiency of care managers, help drive better member health behavior, improve data collection and lower costs.

Designed to address Population Health plan members at any risk level, Silverlink's Health and Disease Management call technology aims specifically at diabetes condition management, with future plans to address other major chronic illnesses.

These solutions are highly flexible call programs that health plans can tailor and personalize for multiple market segments. Silverlink has partnered with **Healthwise**, a company that maintains consumer health content, to leverage condition-specific, evidence-based information for patients.