

Health Information Compliance Alert

Industry News: OCR Uploads a New FAQ on HIPAA and Health Plans

Tip: Review HIPAA Privacy Rule requirements.

To better clarify patient data sharing between two separate health plans, the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Service Office for Civil Rights** (OCR) released a frequently-asked-questions (FAQs) set to address quandaries.

The new offering supports better care coordination between health plans and surrounds the uses and disclosures of patients' protected health information (PHI), according to the release. There are only two questions and answers, but the OCR gives in-depth explanations with references to the related parts in the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

Both answers offer scenarios to help covered entities (CEs) understand what is and what is not allowed.

Check out the FAQs at

www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/faq/3014/uses-and-disclosures-for-care-coordination-and-continuity-of-care/index.html.