

# HIPAA

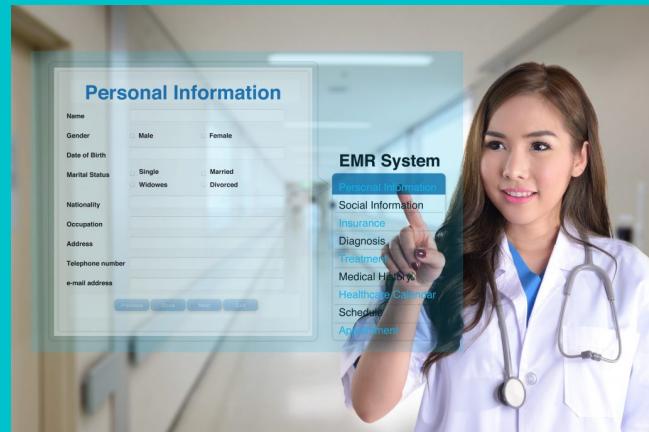
According to CDC, The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) was created to protect patients' sensitive health information from being revealed without patients' consent. HIPAA rules include privacy, security as well as breach notification requirements that applies to health information created or transmitted by healthcare personnel engaged in electronic transaction, heath transaction, and health plans. (McGonigle & Mastrian, 2022). The video file from Walden University asserts that "HIPPA privacy rules describe what information is protected and how protected information can be used and disclosed. "Per IT.gov, In today's world, Data Privacy and Security are considered a great concern, so health information should be protected and kept private.

## Impact on Electronic health records

Per Cooksey, Health care professionals are at high risk of HIPAA violation because of security failure and compliance oversight. Whenever there is an introduction of a new electronic health record system in an organization, it can bring a HIPAA threat if it is not used effectively and be a problem, so to prevent all this from happening HIPAA policies should be taken very seriously and followed by each person in an organization. EHR is considered very sensitive because of the amount of information collected and stored in this platform, therefore, to protect patients' healthcare data from getting stolen and government fines, HIPAA regulations have to be followed. Healthcare organizations should pay attention to health information and security with the arrival of new electronic health records, all the requirements for technology security and facility standards have to be met to prevent hackers from getting access to patient information.

## Impact on clinical area, patient/providers, and workflow

Individual privacy is a very important aspect of giving respect to someone's autonomy, privacy preserves people's dignity and reverence, therefore it is crucial to establish and maintain a respectful clinical relationship. (Zhang et al., 2021) Information that the patient provides to their providers is very private and willingness to give this information is based on trust that the information will remain confidential therefore Privacy breaches may have negative consequences as it will harm the patient and ruin his/her relationship with the providers and that trust is very essential in diagnosis and treatment that will mess up the entire workflow. If health care data are not protected, then criminals can obtain and sell the data on the black market to those without insurance and can receive expensive treatment under the patient name. The organization and the person breaching privacy had to go through financial loss due to HIPAA violations, on April 21, 2016, the Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced a \$2.2



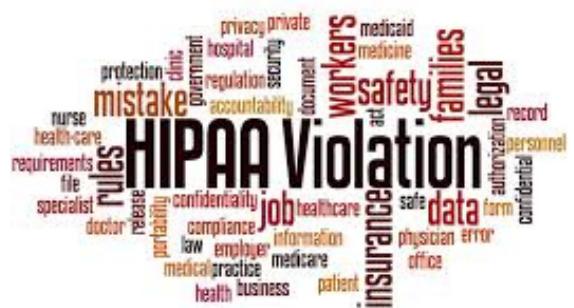
million settlement agreement with New York Presbyterian for HIPAA violation. (Zhang et al., 2021). Because of HIPAA, Patients can actively participate in their care, they can obtain copies of their health information, and can check for errors, and make sure that mistakes are corrected that will also benefit the providers because despite great attention and care organizations can make mistakes while recording health information. Following HIPAA regulations leads to better patient care, higher workforce morale and prevention of financial loss in the organization and improve workflow.

## HIPAA policies in my organization

**Healthcare providers have access to an electronic health records system. HIPPA regulations include administrative and technical safeguards that protect the integrity, confidentiality, and availability of patient health information. HIPAA policies in my organization reflect these safeguards and an audit log is created by implementing hardware, and software mechanism that works by recording and examining activity containing or using electronic health records, these logs will verify if the organization has established policies or procedures. The organization I work for has established policies on appropriately using and disclosing patient health information. HIPAA controls the access and exchange of patient information between healthcare organizations and electronic health records participants. In order to safeguard patient health information, the facility should consider certain things before providing access such as the nature of the information and if the provider or nurse is able to access the information of his/her patient only or the information of the patient of the entire facility. My facility**

## Conclusion

HIPAA compliance is very essential as it makes sure that the protected health information is secured appropriately, and patient data is only accessible to authorized individuals. HIPAA has helped a lot to the healthcare industry to transition from paper records to electronic health records. It has also helped to smoothen administrative functions in the healthcare field by improving efficiency and ensuring protected health information is shared safely. Therefore, healthcare organizations should accept policies such as HIPAA in supporting and protecting patient privacy.



makes sure that there is not any kind of disclosure other than treatment, operation, or payments and if there is any kind of disclosure other than the above-mentioned ones, then this will be analyzed to see if it is compliant with HIPAA or not. We also have "break the ceiling" for a patient that is a celebrity or someone that was involved in a terrible accident, only the person involved in direct patient care can access his/her information because it's human nature that we want to know what happened to the celebrity or how is the person doing after the horrible accident, so in order to prevent disclosing any kind of information our facility has break the ceiling where they have to give their information and the reason they are assessing the patient chart to protect patient privacy. We are also mandated to attend a training program annually that has a completion certification and a signed statement by all of us that will confirm privacy policies will be developed and implemented.



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