



HIPAA Privacy Rule

National Conferences 2003





“HIPAA”

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996

(Public Law 104-191)

Signed August 21, 1996

Title II

Subtitle F - Administrative Simplification



Purpose of HIPAA Provisions

Improve efficiency and effectiveness
of health care system

by standardizing

the electronic exchange of
administrative and financial data



Mandated Standards

- ◆ HHS was mandated to adopt or develop:
 - Specific transaction standards (claims, enrollment, etc.) including code sets
 - Security and electronic signatures
 - **Privacy**
 - Unique identifiers (including allowed uses) for employers, health plans, and health care providers



Privacy Rule

“Federal Floor” of Privacy Protections

- First comprehensive federal health privacy protections
- “More stringent” state privacy protections remain in force



Two Key Privacy Rule Goals

- ◆ Provide strong Federal protections for privacy rights
- ◆ Preserve quality health care



HHS Secretary Thompson August 14, 2002

The Privacy Rule “*strikes a common sense balance by providing consumers with personal privacy protections and access to high quality health care.*”



As Modified, Privacy Rule is:

- ◆ Flexible and Scalable
- ◆ Workable
- ◆ Balanced



Today: Key Elements of Privacy Rule

- ◆ Covered Entity
- ◆ Uses and Disclosures
- ◆ Research
- ◆ Individual Rights
- ◆ Administrative Requirements
- ◆ Compliance and Enforcement



Key HIPAA Dates

Date

Deadline

Oct. 16, 2002

Electronic Health Care Transactions and Code Sets - all covered entities except those who filed for an extension and those that are small health plans

April 14, 2003

Privacy - all covered entities except small health plans

April 16, 2003

Electronic Health Care Transactions and Code Sets - all covered entities must have started software and systems testing

October 16,
2003

Electronic Health Care Transactions and Code Sets - all covered entities who filed for an extension and small health plans

April 14, 2004

Privacy - small health plans