

# HIPAA SECURITY COMPLIANCE AND READINESS ASSESSMENT

## Are You in Compliance?

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is a federally-implemented and nationally-applicable standard in the healthcare industry. It is pertinent to all entities handling Patient Health Information (PHI). The focus of the HIPAA Security Compliance and Readiness Assessment is on the HIPAA Security Rule—specifically 45 CFR Part 160 and subparts A and C of Part 164.

The HIPAA Security Rule establishes national standards to protect individuals' electronic personal health information that is created, received, used, or maintained by a covered entity. The Security Rule requires appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and security of electronic protected health information.

### **A HIPAA Security Compliance and Readiness Assessment includes:**

- Administrative, physical, and technical security controls
- In-scope analysis—Define what systems and processes are in scope for the assessment
  - Scoping can be done remotely (people, process, technology)
  - Identify where the covered entity deals with ePHI
  - Identify the individuals that manage ePHI (processing, administration)
  - Discuss technical infrastructure for processing ePHI
  - Data flow diagrams (as applicable)
- Remediation planning/review
- Contingency planning/review
- Physical security controls



Connection will perform a HIPAA Security Compliance and Readiness Assessment based on the guidelines specified in the Federal Register 45, CFR (Code of Federal Regulation) Part 160 and subparts A and C of Part 164 Final Security Rule. This process includes interviews with customer staff to identify current business goals and review of policies and procedures with respect to HIPAA compliance. The assessment concludes with a report that clearly identifies the findings according to the associated process.

## What Value Does the HIPAA Security Compliance and Readiness Assessment Provide?

Ensuring HIPAA compliance is vital for healthcare industry professionals like physicians, nurses, and medical technicians. Healthcare administrative staff across different departments should also be well-versed with HIPAA standards. HIPAA requires organizations that handle protected health information to regularly review the administrative, physical, and technical safeguards they have in place to protect the security of the information. Our HIPAA Security Compliance and Readiness Assessment can provide you with a better understanding of your organization's current ability to protect your sensitive data from loss or leakage.

- A HIPAA assessment will provide valuable insight into how well the covered entity has implemented the controls necessary to be compliant with the HIPAA safeguards.
- Reporting will help identify where any gaps exist and assist with prioritizing remediation.
- With a complete HIPAA assessment, the covered entity will be able to bring protected assets and health related data into compliance.
- A review process that examines existing, documented policies and procedures outlines where you may be deficient in compliance with HIPAA rules.

## How Long Will a HIPAA Security Compliance and Readiness Assessment Take?

The assessment timeline will depend on the size of the analysis being performed. Before a HIPAA Security Compliance and Readiness Assessment can be performed, there will be a discovery call to identify the scope—including the number of physical sites and locations, identified stakeholders, and other details to help scope the assessment.

### **Our experts will coordinate and conduct a scoping call to:**

- Determine what systems and components are in-scope for the engagement
- Identify points of contact
- Confirm the timeline for testing
- Identify restrictions for testing (e.g., date and time restrictions and defining stopping points)
- Finalize and review a Statement of Work with you

## Trust the Experts at Connection

Today IT organizations across all industries are faced with navigating a complex set of regulatory, compliance, and business demands. With ever-present security risks, business and technology evolution, and tightening regulations, security compliance can be difficult to achieve and maintain. Let our experts help you reduce your risk and position your organization for success.



**Contact your Connection Account Team to learn more.**

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