



2025
EDITION



SOURCEPASS™

Preparing for Change: Navigating Upcoming Updates to the HIPAA Security Rule

How to navigate updates with confidence.

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INTRODUCTION

Why Update the HIPAA Security Rules?

Addressing New Challenges

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) has long been a fundamental part of healthcare data protection. As technology advances, regulations must also adapt to continue safeguarding sensitive health information.

The upcoming updates to the HIPAA Security Rule are designed to address new challenges and ensure that patient data remains secure in an increasingly digital world.

This ebook is designed to help healthcare organizations understand and prepare for these changes, to meet compliance regulations and protect patient data.

INTRODUCTION

What is HIPAA?

The Importance of HIPAA

HIPAA was enacted in 1996 to protect the privacy and security of health information. The HIPAA Security Rule specifically focuses on the protection of electronic protected health information (ePHI). It sets standards for administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and security of ePHI.

The Consequences of Non-Compliance

Non-compliance with HIPAA can have severe consequences. Organizations may face hefty fines, legal action, and significant reputational damage. In some cases, non-compliance can even result in the loss of the ability to operate. This makes understanding and adhering to HIPAA regulations critical for any healthcare organization.

Whether you need to enhance data security, ensure regulatory compliance, or safeguard patient information, we're here to help you achieve your goals.

CHAPTER 1

What are the Updates?

HIPAA Security Rule: Upcoming Updates

The upcoming updates to the HIPAA Security Rule are designed to address the evolving landscape of healthcare technology and data security. Key changes include:



Enhanced Data Encryption Requirements

Organizations will be required to implement stronger encryption methods to protect ePHI both at rest and in transit.



Comprehensive Risk Assessments

Regular risk assessments will become mandatory, with a focus on identifying and mitigating potential vulnerabilities in the organization's IT infrastructure.



Improved Incident Response Plans

Organizations must develop and maintain robust incident response plans to quickly address and mitigate the impact of data breaches and other security incidents.

These updates are expected to take effect within the next 12 months, giving organizations a limited window to ensure compliance.

It is essential to start preparing now to avoid any last-minute rush and potential non-compliance.

Key Updates Explained

More Insight Into the Updates

Annual Risk Assessments

Conduct comprehensive SRAs annually to identify and mitigate potential vulnerabilities in their IT infrastructure.

Multifactor Authentication for Special Access

Require MFA requiring multiple forms of verification before access for all users with privileged or administrative access to systems containing ePHI.

Business Associate Agreements

Ensure that BAAs include explicit terms for breach response, logging, encryption, and annual reviews.

System & Asset Inventories

Maintain an up-to-date inventory of all systems and assets that store or process electronic protected health information (ePHI).

Clear Documentation & Testing

Develop and test detailed documentation for audit logging, vulnerability management, incident response, contingency, disaster recovery, and backup plans.

Third-Party Tracking Technology

Address and monitor 3rd-party tracking technology (cookies and session replay), as possible sources of unauthorized ePHI disclosure.

Mandatory Encryption of ePHI

Implement strong encryption methods to protect ePHI both when it is stored (at rest) and when it is transmitted over networks (in transit).

Reduced Breach Notification Timelines

Reduce breach notification from 60 to 30 days; notify breaches affecting 500+ individuals within 72 hours for prompt response.

Enhanced Training Expectations

Increase the frequency and depth of workforce training on HIPAA compliance and data security practices.

CHAPTER 2

The Role of an MSP in Ensuring Compliance

Maintain HIPAA compliance with expert MSP support.

Managed Service Providers (MSPs) play a crucial role in helping healthcare organizations meet HIPAA requirements. An MSP is a third-party company that provides a range of IT services, including network management, data security, and compliance support.

MSPs can help organizations stay compliant with HIPAA by offering services such as:

- **Continuous Monitoring:** MSPs provide 24/7 monitoring of IT systems to detect and respond to potential security threats in real-time.
- **Regular Audits:** MSPs conduct regular audits to ensure that all security measures are up-to-date and effective.
- **Regulatory Expertise:** MSPs stay informed about the latest regulatory changes and ensure that their clients are always in compliance.

Whether you need to enhance data security, maintain regulatory compliance, or safeguard patient information, partner with us today to navigate the upcoming HIPAA Security Rule updates with confidence.

CHAPTER 3: BENEFITS OF PARTNERING WITH AN EXPERIENCED MSP

Compliance Requires Experience

Updates to the HIPAA Security Rule are essential to address evolving threats and enhance safeguards in an increasingly digital healthcare environment

Partnering with an experienced MSP offers several benefits for healthcare organizations:

- **Expertise and Knowledge:** MSPs bring specialized knowledge and experience in healthcare compliance, ensuring that organizations meet all regulatory requirements.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** Hiring an MSP can be more cost-effective than building an in-house compliance team. MSPs offer scalable services that can be tailored to the organization's needs, reducing the need for significant upfront investment.
- **Scalability and Flexibility:** MSPs can scale their services according to the organization's needs, providing flexibility as the organization grows or faces new challenges.

Whether you're just getting started with HIPAA compliance or navigating updates to the HIPAA Security Rule, it's crucial to partner with an experienced MSP like Sourcepass.

Read a Case Study of our experience with HIPAA compliance on p.7-8.

Responsive Service & HIPAA Compliance



SOC 2
TYPE II
CERTIFIED



Introduction

Riverside Industries provides individualized services combining life skill development, day habilitation, and employment options for adults living with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and autism in Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden Counties of Western Massachusetts.

Challenge

Technology is the framework in which Riverside operates and plays a number of critical roles in the organization, including compliance, communication, and collaboration.

- Protecting HIPAA information for clients and staff
- Maintaining network, application, and data availability for seamless interaction across a large facility
- Requirements for highly responsive technical services and expert strategic guidance

Our Approach

Sourcepass understood the challenges that Riverside was faced with, especially in its endeavor to achieving and maintaining industry-regulated HIPAA compliance to ensure the privacy and security of patient information, as well as having seamless network connectivity avoiding disruption that could impede access to critical systems and data, potentially affecting patient care and operational efficiency.

The approach used to overcome these challenges was to provide a dedicated Cyber Risk Advisor to guide Riverside on its compliance journey, as well as the implementation of robust cybersecurity solutions to safeguard critical patient and staff data.

Solution

Over a decade later, Sourcepass and Riverside continue to partner for success, ensuring that smooth IT operations and strict HIPAA compliance clear the way to support Riverside's compassionate mission to support those in need.

- ✓ Established an IT partnership with the proper cybersecurity expertise to implement and maintain a successful HIPAA compliance engagement.
- ✓ Expert managed IT services to proactively maintain and operate a modern IT infrastructure
- ✓ A responsive, empathetic service engagement that understands the urgency of situations and quickly resolves technology-related issues.

“

We heavily rely on Sourcepass, they function as our full-time IT department and guide us on complex issues like security and compliance. They truly understand our business which is huge comfort to our team.

– Lynn Ireland, President & CEO

”

Conclusion

For mission-driven organizations, it is critical to choose the right strategic IT partner to ensure success for your company, your employees and the community they support.

Sourcepass focuses on developing a strategic approach that is aligned with your company's goals, allowing you to focus on your mission and achieve success however you define it. We're proud of our partnership with Riverside and invite you to contact us to learn more on how we can support your organization.



Sourcepass provides the technical expertise, strategic guidance, and impactful technology solutions to transform your company into a modern, secure, cloud-enabled business. Start your journey today by contacting us at 646.681.5528 or visit www.sourcepass.com.

CHAPTER 4: CHOOSING THE RIGHT MSP

Guidance on Your Path to Compliance

Key Considerations

Industry Experience: Look for an MSP with experience in the healthcare industry and a proven track record of helping organizations achieve HIPAA compliance.

Certifications: Ensure that the MSP has relevant certifications, such as Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) or Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA).

Customer Reviews: Check customer reviews and testimonials to gauge the MSP's reputation and reliability.

How to Evaluate Potential Partners

- ✓ **What is your experience with HIPAA compliance?**
- ✓ **Can you provide references from healthcare clients?**
- ✓ **How do you stay informed about regulatory changes?**
- ✓ **What services do you offer to ensure HIPAA compliance?**

Don't wait until the new regulations are in full effect. Proactively act now by working with an experienced MSP, like Sourcepass, to ensure your organization is set up for success.

AWARD-WINNING IT SERVICES

About Sourcepass

2,200+

Clients

500+

Team Members

97%

CSAT Score

9

Locations

Sourcepass is the industry's fastest growing IT service provider, focused on providing an IT experience that clients love.

Our experienced, award-winning team focuses on developing personal relationships with our clients, learning about your business needs and how best to apply technology to solve problems and create new opportunities.

Sourcepass can help transform your business to increase scalability, meet cybersecurity goals, and drive growth.

Dedicated to excellence.

Sourcepass has achieved SOC 2 Type II and ISO 27001 certifications, reflecting our commitment to safeguarding the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data, environments, and cybersecurity processes for both customers and trusted partners alike.

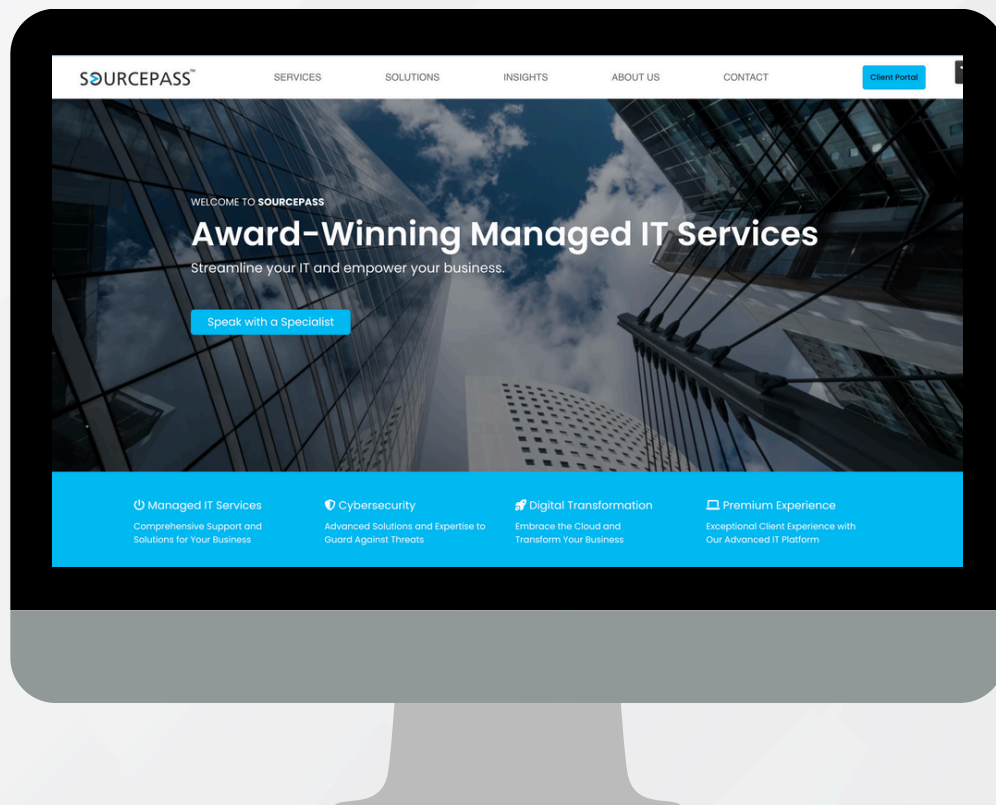


**SOC 2
TYPE II
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Take control of your digital universe.



Visit sourcepass.com to start your digital transformation journey today.

