



HIPAA UPDATE MARCH 2005

HIPAA! For more information including answers to frequently asked questions, educational materials, information on the law, regulations and enforcement go to our Website – <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/hipaa2>.

April 20, 2005

Security Deadline – Remember the deadline to become compliant with the HIPAA Security provisions is April 20, 2005-only one month away! Covered entities should visit the CMS website for the latest guidance papers and other information about the Security Rule. Two papers are currently available: “**Security 101 for Covered Entities**” and “**Security Standards – Physical Safeguards**”. When a new paper in the series is available, it will be immediately posted to the website. For immediate assistance during normal business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, please call 1-866-282-0659.

National HIPAA Roundtable

CMS will host a National HIPAA Security Roundtable conference call on **April 13, 2005** at 2:00PM ET. The call in number is **1-877-203-0044** and the identification number is **4587639**.
No cost or registration required.

Latest News - E-prescribing proposed rule and Q&A

The official Federal Register version of the e-prescribing proposed rule, along with Q&As, is posted on the CMS website. Links to the documents are as follows:

Proposed rule:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-1773.pdf>

Q&A:

http://questions.cms.hhs.gov/cgi-bin/cmshhs.cfg/php/enduser/std_alp.php?p_cat_lv12=167

Please note: comments on the proposed rule are due on April 5, 2005.

CMS HIPAA 101 Video and CD-Rom:

HIPAA Transactions and Code Sets videos are still available.

Order online for only \$13.00 at <http://www.ntis.gov>.

National Provider Identifier (NPI)

The Final Rule adopting the HIPAA standard unique health identifier for health care providers was published in the Federal Register on January 23, 2004. Information on applying for NPIs will be available in mid 2005. All health care providers are eligible to be assigned NPIs; health care providers who are HIPAA covered entities must obtain and use NPIs. All HIPAA covered entities must use NPIs by the compliance dates (May 23, 2007 for all but small health plans; May 23, 2008 for small health plans). The Request for Proposals for the NPI Enumerator (RFP-CMS-2005-0004) can be found at:

<http://vsearch1.eps.gov/servlet/SearchServlet>

Enter "NPI" in the "Full Text Search" box and click on "Start Search." This takes you to the posting. The Enumerator is the entity that will interface between the National Provider System and the health care industry, acting under the direction of CMS to perform a variety of functions.

HIPAA Transaction and Code Set Complaint Information- ASET

The Administrative Simplification Enforcement Tool (ASET) is an electronic compliance tool to assist health care providers, payers, clearinghouses and others submit complaints related to the HIPAA electronic transactions and code sets. ASET enables individuals or organizations to file a complaint against an entity whose actions impact the ability of a transaction to be accepted and/or efficiently processed. If you feel you have a HIPAA transaction and/or code set complaint, go to the CMS **website** and link to the HIPAA Enforcement.

View HIPAA Presentations

Presentations can be viewed via your own computer at your own pace for FREE. To access these presentations, click on the following link: <http://www.eventstreams.com/cms/tm 001/>

You can choose any of the following presentations:

- 1) Message to Providers
- 2) HIPAA Basics
- 3) Provider Steps to Getting Paid
- 4) HIPAA Security
- 5) CMS Enforcement of TCS
- 6) 837 for Professional Claims
- 7) 837 for Institutional Claims

CONTACT US WITH YOUR HIPAA QUESTIONS

CMS HIPAA Hotline # **866-282-0659**

HIPAA FAX toll free # **877-272-3676**

HIPAA TTY toll free # **877-326-1166**

E-mail us at askhipaa@cms.hhs.gov