

# HIPAA Readiness Statement

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HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) is a set of regulations developed by various different government agencies and members of the health industry. It's designed to protect patient rights, and simplify the complicated web of communication systems used by the industry for passing information from one entity to another. HIPAA contains a set of standards used by all agents of the industry with regard to how provider and patient information is transferred and protected. There are three main provisions of this Act.

## **Transaction Standards**

The most critical of these three provisions to Compulink are the Transaction Standards, with the ANSI 4010 standard updated in the year 2001 and since that time, with necessary updates maintained by Compulink's experienced EDI programmers. See below regarding the ANSI 5010 and ICD-10 preparations at Compulink.

## **Privacy Regulations**

The Privacy regulations dictate standards for keeping individually identifiable patient data private. This means that patient data should only be visible on a need to know basis. With regard to Compulink software, the privacy regulations dictate how information in our program is secured in order to keep personal patient data private. Compulink has various different levels of security built into our applications, which allow system administrators to allow access to only the parts of the system that particular person or station needs to access. In other words, the person who adds the demographic information into the system may or may not have access to the diagnostic or medical record part of the system, etc. However, patient privacy is only partially related to operation of software, and is instead related to the flow of the paperwork through your office. It is very important that you assign a HIPAA officer in your office to regulate these processes to ensure your policies meet the guidelines of the Privacy regulations.

## **Security Regulations**

The Security regulations dictate specific details as to how the electronic information used by the healthcare industry should be stored, transferred, and used to ensure the privacy of individually identifiable data related to a patient's healthcare. Compulink's Advantage/EHR™ Electronic Health Records software is both CCHIT Certified® 2011 and ONC ATCB 2011/2012 certified. The security of information in Compulink's software has been reviewed against the security criteria of both of these certification programs. For more information on both certification programs, please visit CCHIT's website, [http://www.cchit.org/get\\_certified](http://www.cchit.org/get_certified)



## **Compulink Software – HIPAA Compliance Tools**

Compulink Business Systems, Inc. provides Practice Management Software to various specialties in the healthcare industry. Our role in HIPAA is that of a “business associate.” We continually research and test our products to ensure we provide covered entities (our clients) with the proper tools for HIPAA compliance:

- User Login and Password
- Ability to limit access to specific patient data depending upon Login ID
- Chart logging – keep a complete log of who has accessed the patient electronic and paper records
- Track changes made to the Medical Record by login ID
- Digital signatures
- Exam Record Locking and Audit Trail
- HIPAA compliant EDI medical claims, Electronic Remittance and Eligibility Reporting

## **ANSI 5010 Transition**

Medical electronic transaction formats do change from time to time. Starting a three year transition process in 2010, the insurance industry is moving to the ANSI 5010 Electronic Data Exchange format.

Here at Compulink, we have done the necessary programming based on documentation provided by testing partners. We are prepared to test with these clearinghouse and payer testing partners. The preparation year is 2010, the testing year is 2011, and full implementation is expected in 2013.

- Here at Compulink we have prepared for 5010, programming to meet the new standard.
- Testing is required during 2011, and we are prepared, as noted above.
- We expect to do ongoing testing throughout 2011.
- Some payers will begin to accept live claims in 5010 format in 2011.
- Transaction processing in 2012 will be in 5010 format for more payers.

Visit the ANSI 5010 page at CMS:

[http://www.cms.gov/ICD10/11a\\_Version\\_5010.asp](http://www.cms.gov/ICD10/11a_Version_5010.asp)

## **ICD-10 Coding Transition**

New diagnostic and procedure codes will be released for general use starting in 2013. ICD-10 allows more information to be packed into every diagnosis code. ANSI 5010 supports ICD-10 coding, which is slated for use by providers in 2013. ANSI 5010 testing with ICD-9 and ICD-10 will begin prior to 2013, and the software interface design will begin to reflect the new coding as well. Your Advantage software will change to meet this demand.

Visit the ICD-10 Home Page at CMS: <http://www.cms.gov/icd10/>

