TRICARE

TMA Privacy Office Information Paper

Records Management◆FOIA◆DUAs◆HIPAA Compliance◆ADP Security◆Privacy Act◆System of Records◆PIAs

Person or Entity Authentication

HIPAA Security◆ November 2003

Standard requirement

Covered entities must implement person or entity authentication as a part of their technical safeguards. The Security Rule defines this requirement as implementation of "procedures to verify that a person or entity seeking access to electronic protected health information (EPHI) is the one claimed." Covered entities must install and use technical procedures that verify the identity of "entities" with access to EPHI. An "entity" in this case includes human users and other machines while transferring or requesting information. Covered entities may use many methods with varying degrees of assurance to satisfy this requirement. As with most of the standards and implementation specifications, the rule does not specify the technology or requisite level of robustness. Covered entities must balance business needs, cost of controls and the sensitivity of the protected information while conducting their risk assessment to determine the robustness of the authentication method. There are no associated implementation specifications.

See also:
45 CFR 164.312(d)

Federal and DoD regulations that support this standard
DoD 8510.1-M
DoDD 8500.1
DoDI 8500.2