



Managing Information Privacy & Security in Healthcare

HIMSS Privacy and Security Toolkit History of the Toolkit

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History of the Toolkit

Recognizing the importance of information security in managing computer-based patient records, the Computer-based Patient Record Institute (CPRI) chartered the Work Group on Confidentiality, Privacy, and Security in 1993. For three years, the Work Group developed and published a series of topical booklets providing guidelines for improving information security for organizations implementing EHRs. The guideline series addressed separate issues in information security, but, taken as a whole, promoted a comprehensive organizational process. With the emergence of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) in 1996, CPRI decided to consolidate and expand this initial series into a single, comprehensive reference. Thus, in 1997, the *CPRI Toolkit: Managing Information Security in Healthcare* was born. The CPRI Toolkit Work Group committed itself to preparing regular updates as the field of health information security developed and produced Versions 1, 2 and 3 under the auspices of CPRI. Version 3 was a particularly important update because it added extensive new material on the recently published final HIPAA security rule. In 2002, the CPRI merged with the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) bringing along the Toolkit with its Work Group.

HIMSS has sponsored three updates of the Toolkit, Versions 4, 5, 6 and now the web-based version that is updated on a real time basis. Version 5 marked another milestone in the development of the Toolkit with the addition of a large section with many new chapters devoted entirely to health information privacy. Version 5 also attempted to exploit the power of the World Wide Web to offer links to many online resources. With Version 6, the Toolkit acquired several new chapters including a new section on security in the emerging Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN) and similar vast architectures, a completely new organization and a new name, the *HIMSS Privacy and Security Toolkit*. All existing chapters were reviewed and, when appropriate, updated. With the HIMSS Privacy and Security Toolkit, a healthcare organization should be able to plan, implement, and evaluate privacy and security surveillance processes scaled to their organizational needs. These resources should aid healthcare organizations in securely managing information, particularly as they develop responses to new federal regulations and laws such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) of 2002, or the Omnibus Rule amendments of 2013.

In 2010, the HIMSS Toolkit Work Group reorganized the contents and moved to a dashboard format that provides multiple avenues to access content. The updated Toolkit provides a format that makes it easier to access information by area of interest and contains new information relative to the latest regulatory requirements of the HITECH Act of 2009, new responsibilities of Health Information Exchanges (HIE) now designated as Business Associates, and other important advances in privacy and security.

The Toolkit update review of 2013 incorporated final regulations of the Omnibus Rule published in January 2013 which implements the HITECH Act, modifies the breach notification, privacy, security, and enforcement rules and implements the underwriting nondiscrimination requirement of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA).

Over the years, the HIMSS Privacy and Security Toolkit has spawned additional Toolkits that address subspecialty areas of security that have their own in-depth body of knowledge. These toolkits (see list below) can be found at <http://www.himss.org/library/healthcare-privacy-security?navItemNumber=13400>.

- Privacy and Security Toolkit for Small Provider Organizations
- Patient Identity Integrity Toolkit
- Risk Assessment Toolkit
- Mobile Security Toolkit
- Cloud Security Toolkit