

American Health Information Management Association

- **Organization traces its history back more than 75 years**
- **Members reach 50,000 in the HIM community and beyond**
- **Core values “The public’s right to accurate and confidential personal health information (PHI)”**
- **As the community and industry has changed, the organization has tailored its initiatives, however maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of personal health information remains at the core**



Statement on Health Information Confidentiality – Joint Position July 2006

American Medical Informatics Association & American Health Information Management Association

- **As health care migrates from a paper-based system, necessary to evolve principles**
- **Timely notification of security breaches**
- **Privacy protections follow PHI no matter where it resides**
- **Protect PHI to fullest extent possible, regardless of “covered entity” status**
- **www.ahima.org/dc/positions**



Current State of HIPAA Privacy and Security Compliance

Survey conducted by AHIMA, April 2006 – “Intent to reinforce the importance of protecting the privacy, Confidentiality, and security of PHI.”



Patient Confidentiality in an Electronic World - Challenges

Technical

- Technology disparities
- Security breaches
- Technical safeguards

Data Use

- Secondary use or misuse of data
- Data quality and integrity issues
- Security breaches
- Health Information Exchanges (HIE)
- Mixture of data
- Identify theft



Patient Confidentiality in an Electronic World - Challenges

Consumer

- **Sweeping culture change**
- **Fear of discrimination**
- **Variations on State and Local laws**

Federal – Health Information Technology Initiatives

- **American Health Information Community (AHIC)** established the *Confidentiality, Privacy, and Security Workgroup* July 2006
- **National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS)** presented Secretary Leavitt with a letter of recommendations regarding *Privacy and Confidentiality in the Nationwide Health Information Network*
- **AHIC Biosurveillance Workgroup** to develop materials for protection of patient confidentiality 30 Sept 2006

Federal – Health Information Technology Initiatives cont....

- **Certification Commission on Healthcare Information Technology (CCHIT) has developed criteria for confidentiality of PHI in the review process**
- **Under HHS contract, 33 states have contracted to conduct an analysis of current privacy and security practices and laws to identify variations that affect HIE**
 - **Develop best practices**
 - **Proposed solutions**
 - **Develop implementation plans for future HIE efforts**
- **Pending legislation H.R. 4157**

Defining Comprehensive Privacy Architecture

Canada

- **Accountability**
- **Identifying purposes**
- **Consent**
- **Limiting collection**
- **Limiting use, disclosure, and retention**
- **Accuracy**
- **Safeguards**
- **Openness**
- **Individual access**
- **Challenging compliance**

United States

- **Collection limitation**
- **Disclosure**
- **Secondary usage**
- **Record correction**
- **Security**

