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HIPAA: STRATEGIES FOR COMPLIANCE

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HIPAA is the acronym for federal legislation passed in 1996 called the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. It primarily enabled the transfer of health coverage from one employer to another, but it also contained a provision requiring the passage of a new law to protect health information, known as the Privacy Rule. The final Privacy Rule was issued on August 14, 2002, and the DHHS Office of Civil Rights issued guidance on how to implement the Rule on December 3, 2002. The Privacy Rule must be implemented by April 14, 2003. There are special provisions in the HIPAA Privacy Rule that apply to research.

This is complex legislation. Many organizations are struggling to comply with the Privacy Rule.

This panel will meet and discuss some issues that affect research organizations.

Objectives:

- 1) What is the Privacy Rule and what is its purpose?
- 2) What are the implications of the Privacy Rule for research?
- 3) What research activities are covered by the Privacy Rule?
- 4) There will be an understanding of terms and their definitions introduced in the Privacy Rule.
- 5) What are Data Use Agreements and Business Associate Agreements and when are they required?
- 6) What is disclosure accounting and when is it required?
- 7) How does the Privacy Rule affect research that is exempt from IRB review under the Common Rule?