H.3.A.ii

HIPAA Security Regulations

Title: Emergency Access Policy

Security Rule: 164.312(a)(1)

Purpose: To ensure that access to critical EPHI affecting patient care is maintained during an emergency situation.

Requirements:

1. Access to systems containing EPHI used to provide patient treatment and/or care must be made available to approved caregivers in case of emergency.
2. Documented procedures for granting appropriate access to systems containing EPHI during an emergency situation must be maintained by the system owner.
3. This policy applies only to EPHI repositories as to which denial of access could inhibit or negatively affect patient care. Many repositories of EPHI are not used for patient care, and it is recognized that such repositories will not be affected by this policy.

This policy and its procedures must be reviewed and evaluated on a periodic basis to ensure that they maintain their technical viability and effectiveness.

Non-compliance with this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment and/or criminal prosecution.

See: HIPAA Security Regulations: Sanction Policy

Recommended By: Emory HIPAA Security Working Group

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Authorized By: Emory HIPAA Security Steering Committee

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