

# HIPAA Security Audit PrepBook

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This document is derived entirely from the HIPAA Audit Protocols published at <http://ocrnotifications.hhs.gov/hipaa.html> on June 26, 2012.

MalvernGroup has endeavored to make no changes to the content or the original OCR publication and to represent the information faithfully: any errors, notes included by the original Protocol authors or other discrepancies are included without comment.

MalvernGroup has analyzed and interpreted the published OCR HIPAA Audit Protocols (the Protocols) to identify documentation that may be requested in an OCR Audit of a Covered Entity's or Business Associate's compliance with the HIPAA Security Rule.

While MalvernGroup has attempted to identify all documents that may be requested, on the basis of the Protocols and on the basis of other reasonable requests which are not part of the published Protocols, MalvernGroup does not warrant that all documents that may be requested have been identified in this PrepBook. MalvernGroup does not warrant that a Covered Entity/Business Associate that has produced all documents identified in this PrepBook will be in compliance with any HIPAA rule or that a Covered Entity/Business Associate will not receive negative audit comments.

This document is based on the OCR's first release of the HIPAA Security protocols and MalvernGroup's interpretations. Please notify us of any discrepancies you may find and we will consider them in an updated version.

**This document does not contain legal advice.**

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OCR HIPAA Security Audit Protocol & Requested Evidence

| Section  | Established Performance Criteria  | Key Activity  | Audit Procedures   | Implementation Specification | Requested Evidence  | Available Y/N | Document ID | Owner | Location |
|----------|---|---|--|------------------------------|---|---------------|-------------|-------|----------|
| §164.308 | §164.308(a)(3) <b>Workforce Security</b> - Implement policies and procedures to ensure that all members of its workforce have appropriate access to electronic protected health information, as provided under paragraph (a)(4) of this section, and to prevent those workforce members who do not have access under paragraph (a)(4) of this section from obtaining access to electronic protected health information. | <b>Establish Clear Job Description and Responsibilities</b> | Inquire of management as to whether a formal document is in place identifying levels of access to information systems that houses ePHI.  | Addressable                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A formal document identifying levels of access<sup>1</sup> to information systems that houses ePHI based on business need</li> </ul>   |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | Obtain and review formal documentation and evaluate the content in relation to the specified criteria to determine that levels of access are granted based on business need.   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal documentation establishing levels of access is appropriately approved</li> </ul>  |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | Obtain and review evidence that the formal documentation establishing levels of access is appropriately approved and communicated.   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal documentation establishing levels of access is appropriately communicated</li> </ul>  |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | Obtain and review relevant job descriptions and evaluate the content in relation to the specified performance criteria and determine that roles and responsibilities are defined and correlate with job function.    |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate level of access to ePHI is defined in <b>all</b> job descriptions</li> </ul>   |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | If the covered entity has chosen not to fully implement this specification, the entity must have documentation on where they have chosen not to fully implement this specification and their rationale for doing so. |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the covered entity has chosen not to fully implement this specification:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ documentation on where they have chosen not to fully implement this specification</li> <li>○ rationale for not fully implementing this specification</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | -end of audit procedure-   |                              |   |               |             |       |          |

<sup>1</sup> MalvernGroup interprets “levels of access” to represent the appropriate ePHI that is needed to perform a workforce members work.

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|          |   |   | Obtain and review formal documentation and evaluate the content in relation to the specified criteria.   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procedures that ensure that new hires and staff have the knowledge, experience and qualifications as defined in job descriptions or roles that include the responsibility to access ePHI</li> </ul>  |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | Obtain and review documentation demonstrating that management verified the required experience/qualifications of the staff (per management policy).  |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation that demonstrates management has verified the required experience/qualifications of the staff per policy; see Workforce Clearance Key Activity below</li> </ul>  |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | If the covered entity has chosen not to fully implement this specification, the entity must have documentation on where they have chosen not to fully implement this specification and their rationale for doing so. |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of compliance with policy and any criteria contained therein.</li> </ul>  |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | -end of audit procedure-   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the covered entity has chosen not to fully implement this specification:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ documentation on where they have chosen not to fully implement this specification</li> <li>○ rationale for not fully implementing this specification</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |               |             |       |          |



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| §164.308 | §164.308(a)(3) <b>Workforce Security</b> - Implement policies and procedures to ensure that all members of its workforce have appropriate access to electronic protected health information, as provided under paragraph (a)(4) of this section, and to prevent those workforce members who do not have access under paragraph (a)(4) of this section from obtaining access to electronic protected health information. | <b>Establish a Workforce Clearance Procedures</b> | <p>Inquire of management as to whether procedures exist for granting access to ePHI.</p> <p>Obtain and review policy and procedures and evaluate the content in relation to the relevant specified performance criteria.</p> <p>Obtain and review evidence of approval or verification of access to ePHI.</p> <p>If the covered entity has chosen not to fully implement this specification, the entity must have documentation on where they have chosen not to fully implement this specification and their rationale for doing so.</p> | Addressable                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies and procedures for granting access to ePHI that ensure that all members of the workforce have appropriate access and prevent those workforce members who do not have access from obtaining access</li> </ul>   |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   |   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of compliance with policy and any criteria contained therein                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Documented policy defining “appropriate”: the qualifications workforce members are required to meet in order to be authorized to access ePHI (PHI)</b></li> <li>○ <b>Evidence demonstrating that workforce members meet criteria prior to their access to ePHI (PHI)</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   |   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of approval and verification of access to ePHI</li> </ul>  |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   |   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the covered entity has chosen not to fully implement this specification:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ documentation on where they have chosen not to fully implement this specification</li> <li>○ rationale for not fully implementing this specification</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |               |             |       |          |
|          |   |   | -end of audit procedure-  |                              |  |               |             |       |          |