## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

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## HIPAA Administrative Simplification Information Bulletin

March 25, 2019

## **Compliance Review Program**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) National Standards Group, on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is launching the Compliance Review Program to ensure compliance among covered entities with HIPAA <u>Administrative Simplification rules</u> for electronic health care transactions.

In April 2019, HHS will randomly select 9 HIPAA-covered entities—a mix of health plans and clearinghouses—for Compliance Reviews. Any health plan or clearinghouse—not just those who work with Medicare or Medicaid—may be selected. In 2018, HHS piloted the program with health plan and clearinghouse volunteers to streamline the process. In 2019, providers will be able to participate in a separate pilot program on a voluntary basis.

Moving forward, the Compliance Review Program will conduct periodic reviews with randomly selected entities to assess compliance. The program supplements HHS's current complaint-based approach to enforcing the use of standards for electronic transactions. Anyone can still <u>file a complaint</u>—or <u>test a transaction</u>—using an online tool known as <u>ASETT</u>.

HHS will review participants' administrative transactions for compliance with standards for:

- Transaction formats
- Code sets
- Unique identifiers

Participants will attest to whether they comply with <u>operating rules</u>. Covered entities found to be noncompliant will be given the opportunity to take actions to correct issues and achieve compliance. Covered entities who do not achieve compliance may be subjected to escalated enforcement actions.

## **Questions?**

For more information about HIPAA Administrative Simplification requirements, visit <u>Go.CMS.gov/AdminSimp</u>. HHS will release more information, including a video about the program, in coming weeks.

HHS also welcomes your feedback on the Compliance Review Program. To share questions or comments, contact <a href="mailto:AdministrativeSimplification@cms.hhs.gov">AdministrativeSimplification@cms.hhs.gov</a>.

For the latest news about Administrative Simplification and the Compliance Review program, sign up for Email Updates.