



HHS to Publish Interim Final Rule Establishing New Civil Monetary Penalties for HIPAA Violations

The Office of the Secretary will publish an interim final rule in tomorrow's Federal Register, entitled "HIPAA Administrative Simplification: Enforcement." The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, which was passed as part of the stimulus bill, enacted new categories of violations as well as new civil monetary penalties (CMPs) for each of these categories. The interim final rule amends the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act's (HIPAA's) enforcement regulations to include these new categories and tiered CMPs.

The rule will become effective 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register, and comments will be accepted for 60 days after its publication. A copy of the interim final rule may be found at the following web address: http://www.federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2009-26203_PI.pdf.