PHYSIO CONTROL

myCARES.NET
Privacy and Security
Overview

Purpose

The privacy of CARES participants and patients is important to CARES and Physio-Control, Inc., the CARES website vendor. The purpose of this document is to give CARES participants an overview of Physio-Control privacy and security practices that are applicable to the CARES software.

Physio-Control maintains CARES data and software in conformance with HIPAA and HITECH Act best practices. Physio-Control has adopted HIPAA Policies and Procedures in recognition of it's requirement to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"), as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health ("HITECH") Act of 2009 (Title XIII of division A and Title IV of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act "ARRA") and the HIPAA Omnibus Final Rule (Effective Date: March 26, 2013).

Key Points

1. System Architecture: CARES uses a restricted-access, secure, enterprise database, managed by Physio-Control.

2. Transmission Encryption: Physio-Control uses Secure Socket Layer (SSL) encryption technology to help ensure the integrity and privacy of the Protected Health Information (PHI). Encryption involves systematically scrambling data and is the same technology used by the banking industry and used to protect online stores. In order to take advantage of this technology, CARES participants need to have a modern web browser with updates applied that will support 128-bit encryption.

3. Data Backup: Data is protected by automated backup systems and redundant data storage.

4. Data Network Firewall: The CARES system is protected by software firewalls and intrusion prevention systems.

5. Access Controls: The system uses role-based access for all user authentication, enforcing the principle of least privilege. Control procedures are in place documenting who and how access is granted to CARES. Individual users are limited to appropriate levels of access to the data set.

Physio-Control's access policy combines the approaches of encryption and authentication / identification to ensure that confidential data is deliverable only to authorized parties.

6. System Timeout: The CARES web interface includes an automatic timeout after 15 minutes of inactivity.

7. De-identification: After matching EMS records with hospital outcome data, patient- identifiable information is de-identified, leaving no Protected Health Information, but allowing for statistical and demographic reporting.

8. Policies and Procedures: Physio-Control has established a comprehensive set of Policies and Procedures that are reviewed regularly. This set of living documents serves as the underpinning for technology, data and business activity and ensures that we are following a repeatable, standardized methodology in our actions.