

Privacy Regulations

Testimony before the NCVHS
Subcommittee on Privacy and
Confidentiality

American Podiatric Medical Association

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Podiatric Practice

- Solo
- Partnership
- Small Group
- Other

Education of Members Is Key

- Association publications
- Interactive presentations
- Updates to website
- HIPAA Resources list
- APMA HIPAA Privacy Manual

Suggestions for OCR

- Repackage privacy information
- Create manual for small or medium-sized practices
- Add more Frequently Asked Questions to website
- Produce a monthly newsletter
- Create regional or state programs
- Present to provider groups

Privacy Rule Training Mandate

- APMA state component societies are providing some assistance
- APMA HIPAA Privacy Manual will assist in training
- Members and their staffs must rely on the state component societies or other, outside sources for additional training

OCR Enforcement

- Penalties for lack of compliance need to be widely publicized
- How will OCR enforce the privacy regulations?
- More information is needed

Patient Education

- Education of patients
- OCR must educate providers and patients
- Covered entities – protections?

State/Federal Preemption Analysis

- Entities are unfamiliar with this type of analysis
- A compendium of existing State and other Federal laws should be created
- The compendium should be publicly available and maintained by OCR

Conclusion

- More help is needed
- Practitioners are already overwhelmed by existing regulations & are struggling to comprehend the privacy regulations
- APMA is willing to assist OCR in communicating information to our member podiatrists

THANK YOU