

# healthcare compliance



In today's ever-expanding digital age, enforcement and oversight of covered entities (CEs) and business associates (BAs) is more rigorous than ever. The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) continues to levy increasing penalties for failing to protect PHI (Protected Health Information) and increase enforcement for violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). In 2013, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), released its final omnibus rule relating to these requirements. Changes incorporated into the final rules include: 1) Improved patient privacy protections; 2) New rights for individuals over health information; 3) Greater limitations on using personal health information; 4) Required accountability over service providers; and 5) Increased diligence when assessing potential privacy or security breaches. In addition to issuing enhanced rules for privacy and security of personal health information, HITECH mandates HHS to provide for periodic audits of covered entities to assess their compliance, not only with privacy and security rules, but also with breach notification standards.

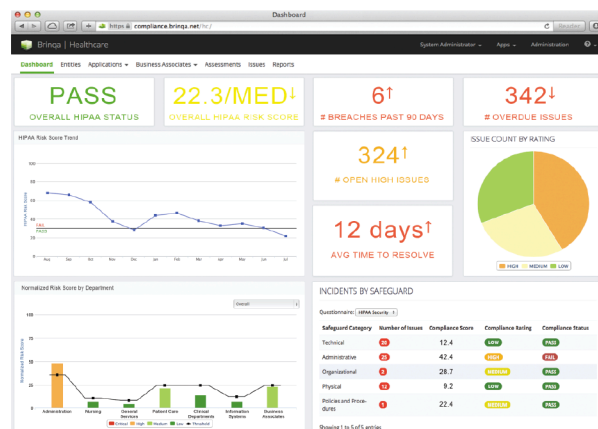
Covered entities are also at risk of being assessed big penalties. Under the HITECH Act, civil actions can be brought to enforce HIPAA. Penalties are increased for noncompliance based on the level of negligence. Some of the incidents that have been publicized include the following:

- Theft of an unencrypted laptop containing the ePHI of patients - \$1.5 Million settlement
- Disclosure of the ePHI of 6,800 individuals, including laboratory results - \$4.8 Million settlement

Both of these incidents were the result of a HIPAA violation related to failing to appropriately safeguard patient information, failing to identify a security official and conduct a risk analysis, failing to track business associate agreements, failing to conduct a risk analysis to safeguard ePHI.

## BRINQA HEALTHCARE COMPLIANCE BE PREPARED FOR A HIPAA AUDIT

Covered entities and business associates face many challenges in meeting their compliance obligations based on HIPAA's final omnibus rule. One of the main obligations includes doing risk analysis assessments. In the event of a data breach, the first thing the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) will ask for is proof that the company has done a risk assessment identifying potential PHI security risks. Having an automated assessment process in place helps prove that Covered entities are taking the appropriate steps in establishing secure practices. Further compliance initiatives, including tracking the inventory of applications that collect or store patient information, will satisfy many of the omnibus requirements. In addition, the breach notification rule requires identification of breach types such as hacking, improper disposal, loss, theft and unauthorized access or disclosure.



## KEY FEATURES

- Automated assessments for HIPAA Security
- Automated assessments for HIPAA Privacy
- Automated assessments for Breach Notifications
- Standard or customizable question bank
- Tracking of enterprise, cloud and mobile applications
- Comprehensive data warehouse securely maintains current & historical data
- Issues mapped to specific HIPAA controls
- Risk metrics, including overall HIPAA risk score, Incidents status, Breach status
- Manages the full life cycle of issues and remediation processes for fast and efficient prioritization
- Business associate risk profiles
- Business associate risk scoring based on compliance of covered entities requirements
- Executive dashboards report on the organization's service provider risk posture and drill down to details

## **ANALYSIS AND MEASUREMENT**

Brinqa Healthcare Compliance incorporates the risk analytics engine in the analysis of healthcare assessment and incident management. This includes automated business associate assessments and HIPAA security assessments to establish a regular cadence for evaluating adherence to compliance obligations. Consideration for an organization's acceptable and unacceptable deviations (risk tolerance) and how much risk they are willing to accept (risk appetite) is an important function in the analysis. Risk scoring and risk ratings are tracked and integrated with the issues and remediation cycle. Real-time reporting via customizable dashboards ensures that information is available at all times and allows for anticipating and responding to critical risk. Compromise of organizational policies and controls may adversely affect the enterprise and its business associates. As such, consideration of healthcare risk is a vital component of Brinqa Healthcare Compliance.

## **STREAMLINE DUE DILIGENCE**

Approved business associates, including software providers, service providers and pharmacies are managed through the healthcare life cycle and easily managed through the user interface. Healthcare compliance risk is managed through business associate profiles, assessments, issue tracking, remediation, and reporting. Covered entities can create healthcare risk assessments with the flexibility to tailor and schedule them, as well as track and report results over the course of the engagement. Additionally Brinqa Healthcare Compliance identifies risk assessments that need to be conducted but have not yet been scheduled, based on an organization's established best practices.

## **ISSUE REMEDIATION AND TRACKING**

Brinqa Healthcare Compliance has a simple issue tracking process built in. Healthcare issues can be automatically generated based on responses in the assessment process or can be created manually. The approval process includes multi-level approvals including top-level risk managers, business unit owners, and business unit managers. Risk evaluations can be accepted, mitigated, or issues may be identified for remediation. When an issue is identified, Brinqa Healthcare Compliance has built in notifications and tracks the progress of the remediation. Brinqa Healthcare Compliance audits and provides management reports and dashboard views of the status of a risk evaluation and any associated remediation plans.

## **VISUALIZATION**

Risk communication requires an interactive process that involves multiple stakeholders. Brinqa Healthcare Compliance visualization of risk is intended to support the need to improve effectiveness, legitimacy, and acceptance of risk governance. Brinqa aggregates and analyzes all of a covered entity's healthcare compliance risk data and displays the results of the analysis in healthcare dashboards. The information represented can be easily modified from the user interface and is viewable on any device for quick access to evaluate risk.

## **MULTI-TIERED ARCHITECTURE**

The Healthcare Compliance Risk application leverages the Brinqa Risk Analytics Platform for risk management, workflow engine, incident management, and risk analytics. Brinqa Risk Analytics combines a big data powered architecture and risk management capabilities that enable companies to capture, prioritize and remediate the most important risks to their business. Brinqa is built to enable and support high volume data by incorporating a big data store that can incorporate enormous amounts of continuous data, then collect, store and correlate the data.

## **BRINQA RISK ANALYTICS PLATFORM**

Brinqa applications combine a unique approach to achieving your risk goals with a robust set of capabilities to aggregate your risk data, define and manage your risk models, measure return on investment (ROI) and risk reduction, and review metrics and trends.

An effectively implemented risk platform not only automates compliance-related activities and risk management, but also provides a strategic governance foundation for all enterprise initiatives and programs. Brinqa Risk Analytics Platform provides a solid and extensible platform for tracking, monitoring, remediating issues and visualizing any kind of risk.

Establishing a robust platform up-front using the Brinqa Risk Analytics Platform means connectors, asset models, controls, and process workflows are re-usable across the enterprise streamlining risk-related activities in the short term, while laying the necessary foundation for rapid ROI on future risk management needs.

To learn more about how Brinqa can help you, please contact us at [sales@brinqa.com](mailto:sales@brinqa.com).