

# HIPAA

## MONTHLY ALERT

October 2017

In compliance with federal regulations that mandate all Liberty employed and subcontracted staff be informed and aware of their obligations regarding the evolving HIPAA rules and regulations, Liberty's Corporate Compliance Department has issued the following informational alert regarding **HIPAA Basics** for the month of October.

**HIPAA Basics. "The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Rules protect the privacy and security of health information"** so we want to be sure you know these rules provide our patients (clients) with certain rights to their health information and that there are common HIPAA noncompliance issues.

1. **Right to Confidentiality** - ePHI should not be available or disclosed to unauthorized people.
2. **Right to Integrity** - ePHI is not altered or destroyed in an unauthorized manner.
3. **Right to Availability** - ePHI is accessible and usable on demand by an authorized person.
4. **Common HIPAA Non-Compliance Issues** - Violations may result in monetary and criminal penalties:
  - i. **Impermissible PHI uses and disclosures**
  - ii. **Lack of PHI safeguards**
  - iii. **Lack of patient's (clients) access to their PHI**
  - iv. **Use or disclosure of more than the minimum necessary PHI**
  - v. **Lack of administrative ePHI safeguards**

Reference: [HIPAA Privacy and Security Information - HHS.gov](https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/provider_ffg.pdf) - [https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/provider\\_ffg.pdf](https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/provider_ffg.pdf)

Please look next month's HIPAA Alert delivered through your email.  
Should you have any questions regarding this alert please contact Judith Ann Shields  
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