

 HIPAA

Standard	Covers
Transactions and code sets	CPT for procedures, ICD for diagnoses
Privacy Rule	Written, electronic and oral PHI
Security Rule	Electronically stored and transmitted PHI (ePHI)
Unique identifiers	NPI (provider, 10-digit), HPI (health plan), EIN (employer)

- ✓ **Enforced by the HHS Office for Civil Rights**
- ✓ **Covered entity:** providers, health plans and clearinghouses that transmit PHI electronically
- ✓ **No written authorization needed** for treatment, payment and operations (TPO); an opportunity to agree or object; incidental disclosure; public-interest activities; a limited data set; or disclosure to the patient
- ✓ **Written authorization is required for one thing:** disclosure to a **third party**, such as an employer, life insurer, lawyer, or another facility
- ✓ **If the caller is not named on the authorization**, you may not release information *or confirm the person is a patient*
- ✓ **Extra protection:** psychotherapy notes (stored separately), substance abuse information, HIV information
- ✓ **Security Rule safeguards:** administrative, physical, technical
- ✓ **HITECH (2009):** penalties from \$100 per unknowing violation to **\$1.5 million per calendar year**. Over **500** people affected means notifying the media and the OCR secretary

 The law

- ✓ **ADA:** a minimum **30 × 48 inches** of clear floor space beside the exam table
- ✓ **Good Samaritan laws** protect a responder who is unpaid, acts reasonably within their training and the limits of the emergency, and is not negligent or reckless
- ✓ **Mandatory reporting:** immediately by phone or fax for hepatitis A, outbreaks, pertussis, measles, plague, TB; up to 3 days for STIs, hepatitis B—E, Lyme, mumps, meningitis, tetanus, varicella; by mail for HIV and AIDS
- ✓ **Vaccine adverse events go to VAERS**, co-sponsored by CDC and FDA
- ✓ **Incident reports:** facts only, completed **by the end of the day**, and **never referenced inside the patient's health record**

 Medicare and Medicaid

Part	Covers	Premium
A	Inpatient hospital	None: payroll funded
B	Ambulatory care and professional services	Monthly. Pays 80% of the allowed amount after the deductible
C	Managed-care version of A + B, possibly more	Varies
D	Prescription drugs	Additional monthly

- ✓ **Medigap** covers Part B's remaining 20%
- ✓ **Medicaid is always the payer of last resort**
- ✓ **Accepting Medicaid** means accepting the allowed amount as payment in full; you may collect the copayment but never bill above it
- ✓ **CHIP** covers children over the Medicaid income limit and, unlike Medicaid, **carries a premium**
- ✓ **TRICARE:** uniformed service members and families.
CHAMPVA: families of veterans permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty

Term	Meaning
Deductible	Paid before the insurer pays. \$100—\$5,000
Coinsurance	The split after the deductible, typically 80/20
Copayment	Fixed dollar amount per visit
Out-of-pocket maximum	The most the policyholder pays in a plan year; deductible, coinsurance and copays count, premiums do not. Then the insurer pays 100%
Assignment of benefits	Payment goes directly to the provider
Birthday rule	The parent whose month and day falls first in the year is primary for a child
PAR provider	Contracted; accepts the fee schedule as payment in full

- ✓ **HMO:** lowest premium, **no deductible or coinsurance**, PCP gatekeeper, referrals and preauthorization always required, 100% patient liability out of network
- ✓ **PPO:** no PCP, no referral to see a specialist; pays out of network, at a higher deductible or coinsurance. Premiums higher than an HMO's
- ✓ **EPO:** usually no referral, but pays only in network except in a true emergency. Premiums between HMO and PPO
- ✓ **POS:** a PCP and referrals, as in an HMO; pays out of network, at a lower rate. Premiums between HMO and PPO