

How Leading Edge Provider Helps You With HIPAA

Leading Edge Provider knows our healthcare clients have HIPAA-compliance responsibilities, and we are here to help. Our systems and services are designed for absolute security and privacy, so we integrate perfectly with your HIPAA compliance efforts, including HIPAA online backup.

The HIPAA Privacy Rule

HIPAA's Privacy Rule, among other things, sets minimum standards for the protection of confidential patient information, called PHI or "Protected Health Information". PHI must be protected against all "reasonably anticipated" threats, physical and electronic. For the average health care provider or health plan, the Privacy Rule requires certain activities, such as:

- *Providing information to patients about their privacy rights and how their information can be used.*
- *Adopting clear privacy procedures for its practice, hospital, or plan.*
- *Training employees so that they understand the privacy procedures.*
- *Designating an individual to be responsible for seeing that the privacy procedures are adopted and followed.*
- *Securing patient records containing individually identifiable health information so that they are not readily available to those who do not need them.*

Leading Edge Provider is a premier online data backup provider for healthcare entities utilizing best practice data serving technology and security software. This means that the health data you backup online and store with Leading Edge Provider's Online Backup Manager is protected to standards that meet or exceed HIPAA's requirements.

Currently, the algorithm that we are using to encrypt your files is 128-bit Twofish. It is a block cipher designed by Counterpane Labs. It was also one of the five Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) finalists chosen by National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST). It has been subjected to frequent public reviews but no known attack against this algorithm has been reported. It would require 8.77 x 10¹⁷ years to crack our 128-bit encryption!

The Bottom Line

Your patients' PHI remains safe, secure, and *private* with Leading Edge Provider's HIPAA-compliant OBM software.

The HIPAA Security Rule

HIPAA's Security Rule establishes a new term: "ePHI", or "Electronic Protected Health Information". ePHI is any PHI that is in electronic or digital form. With the increasing use of computers and networks, PHI is increasingly becoming ePHI. From patient tracking, to testing and diagnosis, to treatment and care, the medical community is creating mountains of electronic health information that has to be protected and Leading Edge Provider's Online Backup Manager is the best data backup and protection solution available.

The Security Rule (section 164) specifically requires, among other things, that the following listed safeguards be used to protect ePHI:

1. Data Backup Plan – 164.308(a)(7)
2. Disaster Recovery Plan – 164.308(a)(7)
3. Emergency Mode Operations Plan – 164.308(a)(7)
4. Emergency Access Procedures – 164.312(a)(1)
5. Data Backup and Storage – 164.310(d)(1)
6. Contingency Operations – 164.310(a)(1)
7. Encryption & Decryption – 164.312(a)(1) and 164.312(e)(1)

For each of these security requirements, Leading Edge Provider supports you in your compliance efforts:

1. Data Backup Plan – Leading IT experts agree that backing up critical data frequently and offsite is one of the best ways to protect your business, and reduce your risk from data losses. Your data backup plan should include Leading Edge Provider’s OBM, the most secure, cost-effective choice for data backup.

2. Disaster Recovery Plan – In an uncertain world, a disaster recovery plan is worth its weight in gold, especially where critical patient data is involved. After a disaster, secure and immediate access to your data is the crucial element of the disaster recovery process. If your own servers and networks are down or damaged, rely on Leading Edge Provider’s Online Backup Manager to keep your data safe and accessible whenever and wherever you need it.

3. Emergency Mode Operations Plan – Some disasters and emergencies last longer than others. If you have to execute your Emergency Mode Ops Plan, it means you’re dealing with an extended outage of your normal operations. In such a scenario, Leading Edge Provider’s OBM is your most reliable and secure data resource. You can run your operations from almost anywhere as long as you have your data. And nobody provides safer, more secure storage and access to your data than Leading Edge Provider’s Online Backup Manager.

4. Emergency Access Procedures – Emergency access may be needed for any number of reasons: a fire or flood in your building; a sudden legal challenge; or the death of a key IT employee. Just as with Emergency Mode Operations and Disaster Recovery, Leading Edge Provider’s facilitates secure, 24/7 access to your data whenever and wherever you need it.

5. Data Backup and Storage – Threats to your data can come from many directions: human error; theft or sabotage; device failures; etc. That’s why an essential requirement of HIPAA’s Security Rule is data backup and storage. Don’t make the mistake of storing and backing up your data on your own site. Technology experts universally agree that offsite storage, done right, is more secure than onsite storage, and reduces your risk of data loss. With Leading Edge Provider’s Online Backup Manager, you can restore your data in mere seconds, all the way back to when you first started with our Online Backup Manager, from any day, on any file.

6. Contingency Operations – As with Emergency Mode Operations, Contingency Operations require you to keep working under difficult circumstances. When your operating environment is uncertain or in flux, Leading Edge Provider’s OBM is your rock-solid data resource, protecting your digital assets from hackers, natural disasters, or just a simple computer crash every day of the year.

7. Encryption & Decryption – Because it protects data from prying eyes, encryption and decryption were made an essential HIPAA requirement. Leading Edge Provider’s Online Backup Manager’s process compresses and encrypts prior to transmitting over a secure internet channel (SSL), so rest assured your data is safe. Our 128-bit SSL encryption is 100% guaranteed.

Leading Edge Provider's Online Backup Manager helps you fulfill your HIPAA Compliance Requirements with it's online backup. Like HIPAA Compliance itself, protecting your critical data is a huge responsibility. Because we built our systems and services for specifically for security and privacy, HIPAA Covered Entities can rely on our Online Backup Manager to blend seamlessly with their HIPAA compliance efforts.

Leading Edge Provider is a premier online data backup provider for HIPAA Covered Entities, utilizing best practice data serving technology and security software. Without any installation fees or additional equipment to purchase, you can start protecting your data right now! Online data backup is becoming the industry standard and through Leading Edge Provider you receive access to secure online data storage with prices as low as \$1 per GB.

Download Leading Edge Provider's Online Backup Manager (OBM)

You can try out Leading Edge Provider's Online Backup Manager software with an initial 50GB of storage without using a credit card. Simple registration only. When you are ready to purchase or expand your account, simply contact us at **sales@leadingedgeprovider.com** and we will handle the rest for you. Thank you for your business!

Download our software at: www.leadingedgeprovider.com/products/obm/obm_downloads.html