

HIPAA Post-Training Test

Now that you have carefully reviewed this training manual and NorthEast's policies and procedures related to the Privacy Rule, take a few minutes to test your knowledge of the Privacy Rule. The following test questions are designed to cover many aspects of privacy. You are well on your way to Privacy compliance.

1. **HIPAA's Privacy Rule protects:**
 - a. Patient information in electronic form
 - b. Patient information communicated orally
 - c. Patient information in paper form
 - d. All of the above

2. **Which of the following is not considered a "covered entity under HIPAA?"**
 - a. Health Care Provider
 - b. Health Plan
 - c. Clearinghouses
 - d. Health Care Consultant

3. **Individually-identifiable health information is considered confidential if it is related to:**
 - a. A patient's past, present, or future physical or mental health condition
 - b. A patient's present condition only
 - c. A patient's past and present condition only

4. **Which of the following is not an example of a Business Associate?**
 - a. A Transcription Agency
 - b. A Consulting Physician
 - c. An Accountant
 - d. A Lawyer

5. **Health information can be disclosed without patient authorization to which of the following:**
 - a. Law enforcement officials undertaking a criminal investigation where state laws apply
 - b. Daily newspaper reporters
 - c. Telemarketing company surveying cancer rates
 - d. The city's Department of Health for the purposes of a prevention campaign

6. **Written authorization is required for:**
 - a. Disclosures to another provider involved in the care of your patient.
 - b. Disclosures of psychotherapy notes.
 - c. Disclosures pertaining to deceased patients who are organ donors.
 - d. Face to face communications with the patient.

7. **The physician tells his wife that he'll be late because he has to see one more patient, a young girl who has just had a miscarriage. You live in a big city. Is it a violation of the Privacy Rule?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

8. **Which of the following should always be removed from a patient's medical file so that information is de-identified?**
 - a. Name
 - b. e-mail address
 - c. Medical record number
 - d. License plate number
 - e. All of the above

9. **For healthcare providers who knowingly misuse a patient's health information under false pretenses, the penalty may include:**
 - a. Final Letter of Reprimand by NorthEast.
 - b. Termination by NorthEast.
 - c. Possible fines and/or imprisonment from the federal government
 - d. All of the above

10. **Which of the following are some common physical safeguards designed to protect confidentiality of health information contained in patient medical records?**
 - a. Locks on medical records rooms
 - b. Passwords to access computerized records
 - c. Rules that prohibit employees from looking at records unless they have a need to know
 - d. All of the above

11. **How many days do you have to make a decision on a request for accounting and on a request for access?**
 - a. 20 days, plus one 10 day extension
 - b. 30 days, plus one 30 day extension
 - c. 60 days, plus one 30 day extension
 - d. 90 days, plus one 30 day extension

12. **In which case would you be required to release information without a patient's permission?**
 - a. When the information is needed for an urgent news story
 - b. When the person requesting the information is a spouse, parent, or sibling.
 - c. When a provider suspects child abuse.
 - d. None of the above.

13. **When is the patient's authorization to release information required?**
 - a. In most cases when patient information is going to be shared with anyone for reasons other than treatment, payment, or healthcare operations.
 - b. Upon admission to a hospital.
 - c. When patient information is to be shared among two or more clinicians.
 - d. When patient information is used for billing a private insurer.

14. **You are working elsewhere in the hospital when you hear that a neighbor has just arrived in the ER for treatment after a car crash. You should:**
- Contact the neighbor's spouse to alert him or her about the accident.
 - Do nothing and pretend you don't know about it.
 - Tell the charge nurse in the ER that you know how to reach the patient's spouse and offer the information if it's needed.
15. **If you suspect someone is violating the organization's privacy policy, you should:**
- Confront the individual involved and remind him or her of the rules.
 - Watch the individual involved until you have gathered evidence against him or her.
 - Report your suspicions to the organization's Privacy Official.
16. **If an amendment to a patient's medical record is allowed, how will you know?**
- The original information will be removed from the record and the amended information substituted in.
 - The original information will be crossed out and the amended information will be handwritten over it.
 - The original information will still be in the file and the amended information will be added as a separate document.
 - There will be a completely separate file of only amended information.
17. **When disclosing patient information to another provider for the provision of treatment, should you limit the patient information you provide?**
- No, you should provide whatever information the other provider requests.
 - Yes, you should provide only the minimum amount of information necessary for treatment. You don't have to limit information for treatment under the Privacy Rule. However, good practice and most policies today still say consider what's being asked. For example, don't send the whole record if only the current medical problem is involved.
18. **It has been the practice to leave the records system open and logged on at the nurses' station computer at the end of a shift to save time for staff who need to retrieve records. Is this allowed?**
- Yes
 - No
19. **You are on your car phone talking to the hospital about a patient while waiting at a stoplight. Your window is down and you blurt out the last name of the patient and mention the procedure. The woman in the car next to overhears you and you live in a small community. What could be done to avoid this? Check all that apply.**
- Roll up the window.
 - Give as little identifying information as possible on the phone.
 - Lower your voice.
 - Run the light.

20. **You send an e-mail to a colleague who has requested information on a surgery you did last year. You attach a file that contains your notes on the patient, but accidentally included information about other patients you have treated. Is this a breach of the Privacy Rules?**
- Yes
 - No
21. **A surgeon and radiation therapist are discussing a difficult case while having lunch in the hospital cafeteria. The cafeteria is crowded and visitors join the two at their table. Schedules are tight, so the surgeon and therapist continue their discussion of the case. The conversation is easily overheard by everyone at the table. What should they have done to avoid violating the Privacy Rule? Check all that apply.**
- Use special care to assure their conversation does not include identifiable information about the patient.
 - Avoid using the patient's name or giving details about the case or condition that can be identifying factors.
 - Have the conversation at a nursing unit or on the medical treatment floor.
22. **A hospital has a physician who performs lithotripsy each Tuesday morning. The physician, the only one in the region to offer the procedure, has called the local newspaper to inform the editor about his new service. A photographer shows up uninvited one Tuesday morning and snaps a picture of the physician with the patient in the background. The following morning's front page includes pictures of the patient talking with his doctor. How could this situation have been handled to avoid breaching the patient's confidentiality? Check all that apply.**
- Had the photographer sign an agreement allowing the physician to review all pictures before being printed.
 - Set up a specific time for the photographer to come.
 - Have the patient sign an authorization for the release of the photograph.
 - Chased down the photographer and take the film.
23. **A volunteer at the hospital goes to visit a patient who has cancer. In an effort to comfort her, the volunteer tells the patient about Mrs. Scaraldi in Room 224 who also has cancer but is making a good recovery. Was this a violation of the Privacy Rule?**
- Yes, because Mrs. Scaraldi's information is confidential and should not be disclosed to another patient without her authorization.
 - No, because volunteers are not required to follow the Privacy Rule and this volunteer meant well.
24. **You are a transcriptionist for the hospital and in the course of transcribing a physician's dictation, you discover that a patient who is a student at your child's school has tuberculosis. What should you do?**
- Call the school immediately and warn the principal.
 - Nothing. The physician is required to notify the public health authority about the communicable disease. If you would like reassurance, contact the Privacy Official to ensure this was done.
 - Pull your child out of school and tell every other parent to do the same.

- d. Call the newstation. Tuberculosis is highly contagious and people should know their children are at risk.
25. **You work in admissions and receive a call from a pharmaceutical company saying that they want the names of all the diabetic patients in the hospital so they can deliver free glucose test strips to them. He says they have done it before for NorthEast. What should you do?**
- a. Give him the names. This is for treatment so it is allowed without an authorization.
 - b. Ask him how much he is willing to pay for it.
 - c. Refer him to the Privacy Official. You are not allowed to give out that information.

ANSWERS

1. d
2. d
3. a
4. b
5. a
6. b
7. b
8. e
9. d
10. d
11. c
12. c
13. a
14. c
15. c
16. c
17. b
18. b
19. a, b and c
20. a
21. a, b and c
22. a, b and c
23. a
24. b
25. c