

A STUDY OF HIPAA SECURITY RULE COMPLIANCE IN SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED HEALTHCARE FACILITIES DURING COVID

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ABSTRACT

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Security Rule (HIPAA-SR) was created to protect U.S. citizens' electronic personal health data. However, studies have shown that small and medium healthcare facilities have difficulties maintaining compliance, especially during COVID. A conceptual model is presented based on the theories of planned behavior, protection motivation, and general deterrence. A survey was administered to 284 employees of small and medium-sized healthcare institutions throughout the United States. The results showed a significant effect of Intention-to-Comply, Security-Awareness, Risk-of-Sanctions, and Top-Management-Support on HIPAA-SR compliance. This study extends the literature concerning HIPAA-SR and its compliance after the pandemic started.

Keywords: HIPAA Security Rule Compliance, Electronic Health Records, General Deterrence Theory, Information Security Policy Compliance, Security Awareness.