



## Lack of Risk Analysis Leads to HIPAA Breach **Medical Records Company to Pay \$100,000 Civil Monetary Penalty**

On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, Medical Informatics Engineering, a medical records company in Indiana [settled](#) a potential HIPAA violation with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights ([OCR](#)) for \$100,000. Additionally, OCR required the submission of a corrective action plan that will include a risk analysis and specific steps to mitigate those risks.

In announcing the settlement, OCR stated that Medical Informatics Engineering did not conduct a comprehensive risk assessment for the electronic protected health information it possessed, as required under HIPAA. This likely contributed to a 2015 hacking incident that exposed personal information for about 3.5 million patients spanning 16 different states, including social security numbers and clinical data.

Performing a comprehensive HIPAA risk analysis [requires](#) a covered entity to accurately and thoroughly analyze the potential risks and vulnerabilities to the confidentiality, integrity and availability of any electronic protected health information it creates, receives, maintains or transmits.

Separately, those 16 states agreed to a \$900,000 settlement of a lawsuit filed against Medical Informatics Engineering.

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