# HIPAA COMPLIANCE EVALUATION GUIDE

PROTECT HEALTHCARE DATA WITH ABSOLUTE

#### THE SECURITY RULE

While the HIPAA Privacy Rule speaks to *which* data is to be protected, the Security Rule establishes *how* that data is protected. Covered Entities (CEs) must comply with both measures and are liable to fines if either of these rules are violated.

Within the Security Rule, there are three safeguard categories to ensure data is protected and standards are followed.

Safeguard Categories:

- 1. Administrative
- 2. Physical
- 3. Technical

Administrative safeguards relate to processes and policies that increase the probability of data protection. These include practices such as access controls, role permissions, monitoring, and training to create an environment where data protection and privacy are embedded in regular operations.



Physical safeguards are the tangible garrisons for ePHI — locked rooms, server cages, secure workstations, and disposal facilities — that provide a material space where ePHI can be shielded from unauthorized access.

Finally, technical safeguards are the ways technology is pressed into service to protect ePHI throughout its lifecycle. Technical safeguards are usually the implements that IT and IT security teams are tasked with establishing and maintaining.





St. Joseph Home Care Network is confident of HIPAA Compliance with Absolute.

DOWNLOAD THE CASE STUDY



#### **WORKSTATION USE AND SECURITY**

- Identify each endpoint's location and user set: on and off network
- Identify authorized and unauthorized hardware
- Identify authorized and unauthorized software
- · Conduct endpoint risk assessment and benchmarking
- Push standard controls to every workstation
- Detect configuration changes on any workstation
- Persist secure communications (e.g. VPN) for every device

## DATA PROTECTION, EPHI • Identify encryption status on every device **DEVICE AND MEDIA CONTROLS** Identify antimalware/antivirus health on every device Detect changes to hardware, software, firmware, and · Locate all devices with ePHI requiring disposal operating systems • Freeze, delete, wipe ePHI stored on specific endpoints Pinpoint PHI stored within or accessed by any endpoints • Validate ePHI removal before reusing electronic media Use Omnisearch across all devices with PHI-specific lexicons Maintain inventory of all devices with access to ePHI Block unsecure ePHI movement (e.g. cloud storage apps, USB Validate ePHI protection when device location changes transmission) Report log and location history for all devices · Persist security apps, agents, secure communications, and controls on every device CONTROLS O

#### **AUDIT CONTROLS**

- Enable policy enforcement within device controls
- Monitor device use and locally accessed ePHI
- Initiate incident investigations, digital forensics, and documentation
- Validate compliance standards and endpoint hygiene
- Confirm device-user compliance with logs, access reporting, and geo-tracking

#### **ACCESS CONTROLS**

- Identify encryption status for every endpoint
- Identify cloud storage apps containing ePHI
- Monitor user activity and enforce role-based security controls
- Score high-risk users with access to ePHI
- Perform dynamic remediation and control changes





### HOW ABSOLUTE ENABLES HIPAA COMPLIANCE ACROSS AN ENDPOINT POPULATION

To comply with these regulations, CEs and their business associates must implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards across their endpoint populations. The following are specific technical capabilities that Absolute provides to avoid penalties for noncompliance:

WORKSTATION USE AND SECURITY	ABSOLUTE CAPABILITY
Identify each endpoint's location and user set: on and off network	<b>/</b> \
Identify authorized and unauthorized hardware	<b>/</b> \
Identify authorized and unauthorized software	<b>/</b> \
Endpoint risk assessment and benchmarking	<b>/</b> \
Push standard controls to every workstation	<b>/</b> \
Detect configuration changes on any workstation	<b>/</b> /\
Persist secure communications (e.g. VPN) for every device	//\

ACCESS CONTROLS	ABSOLUTE Capability
Identify encryption status for every endpoint	<b>//</b>
Identify cloud storage apps containing ePHI	<b>//</b>
Monitor user activity and enforce role-based security controls	<b>//</b>
Score high-risk users accessing to ePHI	<b>//</b>
Dynamic remediation and control changes	<b>//</b>

AUDIT CONTROLS	ABSOLUTE CAPABILITY
Enable policy enforcement within device controls	<b>//</b> \
Monitor device use and locally accessed ePHI	<b>//</b>
Incident investigations, digital forensics, and documentation	<b>//</b> \
Validate compliance standards and endpoint hygiene	<b>//</b>
Confirm device-user compliance with logs, access reporting, and geo-tracking	<b>//</b>

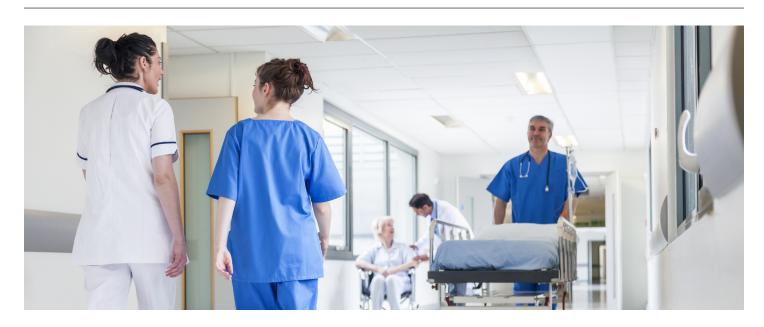
DEVICE AND MEDIA CONTROLS	ABSOLUTE CAPABILITY
Locate all devices with ePHI requiring disposal	<b>/</b> \
Freeze, delete, wipe ePHI stored on specific endpoints	<b>/</b> ^
Validate ePHI removal before reusing electronic media	<b>//</b>
Maintain inventory of all devices with access to ePHI	<b>//</b> \
Validate ePHI protection when device location changes	<b>//</b>
Report log and location history for all devices	<b>//</b>

DATA PROTECTION, EPHI	ABSOLUTE CAPABILITY
Identify encryption status on every device	<b>//</b> \
Identify antimalware / antivirus health on every device	<b>//</b> \
Detect changes to hardware, software, firmware, and operating systems	<b>//</b> \
Pinpoint PHI stored within or accessed by any endpoints	<b>//</b> \
Use Omnisearch across all devices with PHI-specific lexicons	<b>//</b> \
Block unsecured ePHI movement (e.g. cloud storage apps, USB transmission)	<b>//</b> \
Persist security apps, agents, secure communications, and controls on every device	<b>//</b> \





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#### **TAKEAWAYS**

Each safeguard of the HIPAA Security Rule serves to fortify ePHI and ensure information confidentiality, integrity, and availability. As the digital healthcare revolution continues, organizations around the globe rely on Absolute for persistent endpoint visibility and control. Absolute provides healthcare organizations with an unrivaled view and complete command of their endpoint population, to enable data protection and eliminate compliance failures. With Absolute, you're always audit-ready. For more information about our solutions for healthcare, please visit: absolute.com/healthcare.





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#### **ABOUT ABSOLUTE**

Absolute provides visibility and resilience for every endpoint with self-healing endpoint security and always-connected IT asset management to protect devices, data, applications and users — on and off the network. Bridging the gap between security and IT operations, only Absolute gives enterprises visibility they can act on to protect every endpoint, remediate vulnerabilities, and ensure compliance in the face of insider and external threats. Absolute's patented Persistence technology is already embedded in the firmware of most PC and mobile devices and trusted by over 12,000 customers worldwide.

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