

## **Summary of Spring Conference March 15, 2002**

Central and Southern Ohio was honored when Mr. Tom Walsh, CISSP of CTG Consulting, agreed to speak at the Chapter's Spring Conference. The title of Mr. Walsh's presentation was "HIPAA Security Readiness and Remediation Seminar". Mr. Walsh presented to a full room and all attendees greatly appreciated the program. Over the course of the day, Mr. Walsh provided attendees with an overview of the HIPAA security requirements, management roles and responsibilities, HIPAA readiness assessment, prevention (certification of systems), detection (audits), and implementation planning and costs. To enhance the educational and networking opportunities, throughout the day, attendees broke into groups to discuss several case studies that were then brought to the larger group for discussion. Here are some of the points Mr. Walsh presented.

### HIPAA security requirements

After reviewing the requirement and implementation for the administrative procedures, physical safeguards, and technical security services, Mr. Walsh discussed the elements of a four-cycle security program. The four cycles are management, assessment, prevention and detection.

### Management roles and responsibilities

He advised attendees that management responsibilities included establishing a security plan as well as privacy and security policy. Mr. Walsh identified where policies, procedures and forms could be utilized to support HIPAA privacy and security measures.

### HIPAA readiness assessment

Mr. Walsh urged attendees to take a different view of their facility when performing a risk assessment. He recommended that a facility identify what needs to be protected, who to protect it from and how to protect it.

### Prevention

Mr. Walsh engaged the participants in a healthy discussion on system certification. Topics ranged from identification of systems to be certified to how to conduct and document the certification. Mr. Walsh discussed the goal, program content, and documentation of training, education and awareness initiatives.

### Detection (audits)

Mr. Walsh talked about several components of auditing. These included purpose, availability of audit trails, measurement of impact, reporting, implementation, and outcome requirements. Participants discussed what needed to be audited and why. Mr. Walsh also covered incident reporting and handling.

### Implementation planning and costs

After laying out the immediate, short-term and long-term tasks, Mr. Walsh discussed factors that will determine a facilities cost form implementing HIPAA. Factors included labor, one-time and ongoing expenses, and capital for upgrades or purchases.

