

Module 14 - Wednesday Posting

Instructions:

1. **Read Case Studies 1 and 2** You need to read both case studies so you know which one that you want to select for your assignment.
2. **Select ONE case study**
3. **Answer the questions related to that case study.**

Note: Use APA format and formal language.

Case Study 1

Consumers can shop on the internet for surgical procedures permitting them to compare physicians' bids for surgery. Usually, patients log in to the website, enter their medical profiles and the surgery they want. The online service matches the requests with participating doctors who submit proposals including cost. The patients can review the bids and select a physician to perform the surgery.

Case study 1 questions:

- ***Is it appropriate to treat medical care as a commodity like other goods and services?***
- ***Is it unethical for clinicians to bid on services without knowing the patients? Even if it is common practice that HMO's involves individuals or institutions bidding to provide health services for patients they have not met.***

Case Study 2

Someone was searching for a physician on the internet. He logged on to a university's website and used the private search engine to search for the doctor. To his great surprise, he accessed the confidential patient database. Thousands of patient records containing names, addresses, social security numbers, employment, and medical history were open to public scrutiny. He immediately warned the university's medical center. After reviewing the weblogs, it was revealed that through an error on the web-server two months ago, the public search engine was linked to the patient database.

Case study 2 questions:

- ***Is - according to the HIPAA regulations - the medical center obligated to inform all patients whose records were affected?***
- ***Who is accountable for this security breach? How could it have been prevented?***