Policy: HIPAA Covered Components shall comply with the HIPAA Security Rule requirements pertaining to limiting physical access to a facility’s electronic protected health information (ePHI) and the facility or facilities in which they are housed, while ensuring that authorized access is allowed.

Rationale: To comply with 45 CFR 164.310 regarding physical safeguards.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Each HIPAA-Covered Component shall ensure that physical safeguards have been implemented to secure their facilities. Physical safeguards include controls, policies, and procedures to protect a covered entity’s electronic information systems and related buildings and equipment from natural and environmental hazards, and unauthorized intrusion.

Implementation

1. Each HIPAA-Covered Component shall implement a facility security plan to safeguard the facility and the equipment therein from unauthorized physical access, tampering, and theft.

2. Each HIPAA-Covered Component shall maintain a facility security plan for all locations that store and/or access ePHI.

3. Each HIPAA-Covered Component must manage access for visitors.

4. Each HIPAA-Covered Component shall control and validate all persons’ access to facilities based on the individual’s role or function.

5. Each HIPAA-Covered Component Director shall establish authorization for access to facilities and equipment.

6. Each HIPAA-Covered Component shall maintain documentation regarding authorization to access facilities and equipment by its members.

Reference: 45 C.F.R. § 164.310(a)