HIPAA/HITECH COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT

As healthcare organizations continue to adopt information technology in the management of confidential patient information, ensuring compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act requirements is paramount and a key element of an organization's overall compliance program. Pendulum can serve as a strategic partner to help your organization evaluate its existing processes and practices based on regulatory requirements and recommended best practices to help you to be successful in the management of protected health information (PHI) and its associated risks.

Pendulum offers organizations a Privacy and Security Compliance and Risk Assessment that serves to evaluate an organization's compliance with HIPAA/HITECH privacy and security standards and assess the overall security, integrity, and associated processes to ensure the proper management of protected health information. Each professional compliance assessment includes real-time consulting services as well as a detailed report with current recommended best practices. Because Pendulum specializes in risk management, we also evaluate and share information on mitigating risk and enhancing defensibility specific to electronic and physical PHI.

The objectives of the compliance assessment process include:
- Providing a compliance risk assessment that meets the current federal regulatory requirements under HIPAA/HITECH and meaningful use
  - Administrative, physical, and technical safeguards, policies, and processes are reviewed
  - The review includes a customized analysis of unique risks and processes specific to your organization

- Evaluating both the risk and defensibility of current systems and processes and providing recommendations to appropriately manage risk
  - In addition to regulatory compliance, there are associated professional liability risks in the management of patient information

- Providing a report that outlines the strengths and weaknesses of the current program, including recommended best practices
  - This report is an important part of the organization's evaluation of the effectiveness of the overall program
  - The document provides guidance on improving systems and processes, prioritize exiting issues to strengthen regulatory compliance, and manage risk

This is a proactive process that helps in the strategic compliance planning process, enabling your organization to plan and make informed decisions to enhance the strength of its compliance program.