

# Business Associate Agreements: IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

# Create and/or revise Business Associate Agreement (BAA)/Subcontractor BAA templates.

- Review arrangements to identify those subject to HIPAA.
- Determine your role within the arrangement (Covered Entity (CE) vs. Business Associate (BA) vs. Subcontractor).
- Incorporate HIPAA Omnibus Final Rule updates into your template.
- Conduct preemption analysis and include applicable state laws in your template.
- Incorporate relevant additional considerations into your template.

#### **Identify existing BAAs/Subcontractor BAAs.**

For each existing contract, determine which HIPAA Omnibus Final Rule deadline applies: General (September 23, 2013) or Transition Rule (September 22, 2014).

### Renegotiate existing BAAs/Subcontractor BAAs.

- Renegotiate contracts subject to the September 23, 2013 deadline first.
- Renegotiate remaining contracts subject to the September 22, 2014 deadline.

## **Create BAA/Subcontractor BAA Policy.**

- Outline the required content for BAAs.
- Define internal process and responsibilities for:
  - O Determining and initiating business associate/subcontractor status.
  - O Signing BAAs/Subcontractor BAAs.
  - Tracking and maintaining signed BAAs/Subcontractor BAAs.
  - O Updating contracts pursuant to regulatory or organizational changes.
- Attach the current BAA and/or Subcontractor BAA template to your policy.
- Train appropriate staff members on their responsibilities under the policy.
- Implement the policy.