HIPAA HITRUST COMPARISON

Healthcare providers must abide by HIPAA regulations; if they don't, they face heavy penalties. Yet, there is no single official body that certifies HIPAA compliance, let alone determines exactly what HIPAA compliance looks like.

HITRUST is an alliance of privacy, information security and risk management leaders from the public and private sectors. The Alliance provides a common security framework (CSF) that ensures compliance and risk management best practices. In fact, implementing the HITRUST CSF helps you comply with HIPAA; take a look at the table below.

HIPAA Compliance Requirements	HITRUST Certification Requirements
Organizations are focused more on complying with a set of regulations.	HITRUST is about managing risk, which has long-term, positive impacts on healthcare organizations.
There's no certification process to ensure HIPAA compliance, let alone demonstrating compliance.	There is a certification process by which you can prove HITRUST compliance.
Complying with HIPAA doesn't ensure compliance with other regulations, such as NIST, SOX, and PCI DSS.	HITRUST compliance covers HIPAA as well as other regulations, including NIST, SOX, and PCI DSS.
HIPAA has no framework for risk assessment.	HITRUST features a robust, comprehensive framework for risk assessment.
HIPAA compliance requires designing or selecting security multiple controls, which is difficult for healthcare providers who don't understand those processes.	HITRUST chooses the applicable security controls for the organization mapped to the HIPAA Security Rule.
There is no yearly certification process.	Organizations seeking HITRUST certification must undergo an annual audit.
HIPAA isn't updated very frequently.	HITRUST frequently re-evaluates risk management processes to ensure it protects against the latest threats.
There are penalties for not abiding by HIPAA.	There are no penalties for choosing not to obtain HITRUST certification.
HIPAA regulations can be unclear and difficult to follow.	Healthcare organizations obtain HITRUST certification through a third party, relieving the burden of compliance.
You can't run a single report about all of your regulatory compliance requirements.	You can run a single report about all of your regulatory compliance requirements.

Source: HITRUST CSF Assurance Program Requirements Version 9.2

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