The EHNAC Factor: Securing our Nation’s Healthcare Data
Why EHNAC?

Here are the top 10 reasons why healthcare's best companies choose to distinguish themselves with accreditation and certification from the Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission.

2. **One-of-a-Kind**
   - EHNAC is the ONLY organization with the ability to provide both EHNAC accreditation and HITRUST CSF® certification.

3. **Stakeholder-specific**
   - EHNAC accreditation programs serve the unique needs of individual stakeholders – from ACOs, data registries and health networks to e-prescribing vendors, HIEs, payers and more!

4. **Transparent**
   - With EHNAC’s open processes – from pricing to criteria development and the application process – organizations know what’s required, every step of the way.

5. **No Risky Business**
   - Accreditation reduces risk to PHI and operations through the demonstration of a risk management program with effective controls to minimize threats.

6. **Improved Operations**
   - Through comprehensive and objective evaluation of policies, procedures and controls, the accreditation process uncovers opportunities to reduce costs and improve operational performance.

7. **Wise Beyond Our Years**
   - All EHNAC practitioners and reviewers have 25+ years healthcare experience and are experts in their unique business areas including secure messaging, operations and privacy and security best practices.

8. **Ready for Anything**
   - EHNAC accreditation prepares organizations for 3rd party requirements including HIPAA/HITECH compliance, trading partner audits and compliance with state mandates.

9. **Industry Champions**
   - EHNAC’s recognized leaders are committed to improving the security of healthcare data through various federal cybersecurity initiatives, including the VA, ONC, OCR, WEDI and the HHS National Task Group.

10. **Redundancy Elimination**
    - Obtaining both HITRUST CSF® certification and EHNAC accreditation at the same time significantly reduces the time, expense and redundancy of both programs.
History

Founded in 1995, the Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission (EHNAC) is an independent, federally recognized, standards development organization and tax-exempt, 501(c)(6) non-profit accrediting body designed to improve transactional quality, operational efficiency and data security in healthcare.

The Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission (EHNAC) grew out of the 1993 Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI), sponsored by the Network Architecture and Accreditation Technical Advisory Group. The healthcare transactions community agreed there was a need for a self-governing body to develop standards for the industry, and the Association for Electronic Health Care Transactions (AFEHCT) championed the cause by sponsoring an Accreditation Workgroup.

More than thirty representatives from all facets of the healthcare transactions community participated in a series of meetings and surveys to develop the first industry standards for data transmission, data security, advertising and resource capability. Funded by a loan from AFEHCT, the independent, self-governing EHNAC was created and began accrediting electronic health networks in 1995. Learn more about EHNAC’s leadership.

Advancing healthcare through standards

As an independent, self-governing body, EHNAC represents a diverse cross-section of healthcare stakeholders. Electronic health networks, payers, hospitals, physicians, consumer groups, financial services firms, state regulators, security organizations and vendors are all working together to establish industry criteria for third party review and accreditation.

Our Mission

Promote accreditation in the healthcare industry to achieve quality and trust in healthcare information exchange through adoption and implementation of standards.
The Benefits - EHNAC Accreditation

EHNAC accreditation strengthens and protects your business while delivering important benefits:

- Provides independent and objective industry recognition to ensure a higher-level of stakeholder trust
- Drives regular, comprehensive and objective evaluation of policies, procedures and controls
- Gives organizations a competitive advantage in a crowded marketplace by confirming the ability to manage health data with integrity and effectiveness
- Identifies areas to reduce costs, improve operational performance and increase customer satisfaction
- Identifies privacy, security, confidentiality and business risk exposures and mitigation strategies
- Allows organizations to meet regulatory compliance requirements and legislative mandates including:
  - HIPAA, ARRA/HITECH, Affordable Healthcare Act, Omnibus Rule, NIST, GDPR, State Requirements and more
  - MyHealthEData initiative, Data at the Point of Care security requirement for participation in the CMS program
  - State of Maryland requirements for electronic health networks, ePrescribing and managed service organizations
  - State of New Jersey requirements for electronic health networks
  - State of Texas requirements for health information exchanges
In the past 25 years, EHNAC has become the recognized standard in healthcare’s exchange of trusted data. And what the industry thinks of EHNAC accreditation programs and the value they provide means a great deal to us.

A 2021 poll of EHNAC accredited organizations found that...

- 73% believe EHNAC accreditation provides a competitive advantage.
- 89% believe EHNAC accreditation provides a foundation for updated, reusable policy and procedures.
- 82% believe EHNAC accreditation assists with HIPAA and HITECH compliance efforts.
- 84% believe EHNAC accreditation heightens awareness of industry best practices regarding healthcare transactions.
- 84% believe EHNAC accreditation facilitates business discipline, organization, and planning via the criteria-driven self-evaluation process.
- 87% believe EHNAC accreditation assists in the identification of security and business risk exposures and provides mitigating recommendations.
- 94% believe that EHNAC supplies the tools necessary to provide information about their EHNAC accreditation status.
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We’d love to hear your thoughts as well!

Trust Is Everything in Healthcare

When privacy, security and confidentiality of healthcare data is on the line, a trusted name is a game-changer in today’s marketplace. EHNAC accreditation has been trusted and respected in the industry for more than 25 years.
EHNAC accreditation gives an organization’s prospects and customers full confidence in the privacy, security, performance, business practices and resources involved in healthcare information exchange and handling. With recognition from EHNAC, an organization raises awareness about the quality of its products and services, as well as compliance with industry standards.

EHNAC Accreditation Programs

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Additional Services

- HITRUST AUTHORIZED CSF ASSESSOR
- CONSULTING AND ADVISORY SERVICES
- SYSTEM AND ORGANIZATION CONTROLS (SOC) CERTIFIER
HITRUST CSF Certification

The HITRUST CSF certification – when attained in conjunction with the industry-specific EHNAC accreditation – demonstrates to business partners and prospects a commitment to the highest standards of data privacy and security.

The HITRUST CSF provides a comprehensive HIPAA privacy and security review, including HITECH and other applicable regulatory drivers such as PCI DSS, FTC Red Flags Rules and the FDA, etc.

The process includes a review of an organization’s risk management program and cyber readiness, and ensures consistency and accuracy of reporting on requirements for covered entities and business associates.

**EHNAC is the only organization with the ability to provide both EHNAC accreditation and HITRUST CSF certification.**

**Why choose EHNAC as your HITRUST CSF Assessor?**

- Using EHNAC for your HITRUST CSF assessment provides consistency between both certification and accreditation programs for HIPAA privacy and security compliance.
- Organizations achieving HITRUST certification will have 100% of their privacy and security credited to their EHNAC accreditation.
- Organizations that already have EHNAC accreditation will have developed the majority of their HIPAA-related HITRUST CSF privacy and security to apply to that certification.
- EHNAC site reviewers are also HITRUST Practitioners, making it easier for organizations to undergo audits.
- Obtaining both HITRUST CSF certification and EHNAC accreditation at the same time significantly reduces the time, expense and redundancy needed to prepare documentation and undergo required site visits.
- EHNAC is participating on key HITRUST workgroups, advocating strong continuing education and industry requirements regarding privacy and security are communicated and included in future CSF versions.
Consulting and Advisory Services

EHNAC is well-regarded and highly valued in the health IT marketplace, both for its subject matter knowledge and its expertise in areas such as privacy, security, breach handling and IT security frameworks and standards, as well as ensuring compliance with federal regulations regarding HIPAA, ARRA/HITECH, 21st Century Cures Act, NIST and others. As such, EHNAC is now offering Consulting and Advisory Services designed to serve as a crucial guidance, providing healthcare stakeholders with the subject matter assistance in understanding requirements, conducting gap assessments and risk analysis, and providing the associated tools needed to improve processes, achieve best practices, and retain their competitive edge.

Given the substantive changes underway in healthcare compliance and regulatory environments to address privacy and cybersecurity risks and assure contingency planning and stakeholder trust, organizations have focused extensive time and resources on conducting periodic organizational risk assessments, remediating compliance gaps, and meeting third-party assurance requirements.

EHNAC’s senior staff including site reviewers and practitioners each have over 25+ years of healthcare experience, impeccable reputations in the industry, and comprehensive knowledge of the compliance issues their clients face. Through EHNAC’s Consulting and Advisory Services, these experts will assist organizations prepare to achieve industry compliance certification, readiness assessments, HITRUST certifications, SOC audits and EHNAC accreditations so that they meet all essential requirements for privacy, security, cybersecurity, health information exchange, and more.

EHNAC’s Consulting and Advisory Services focus on two distinct areas:

- **Pre-Assessment/Readiness Planning/Best Practices**
- **Consulting for All Stages of Privacy & Security Compliance**
CMS Recognizes EHNAC Program as Evidence of Appropriate Security for Data at the Point of Care Program

The Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission (EHNAC), a non-profit federally recognized standards development organization and accrediting body for organizations that electronically exchange healthcare data, today announced its HNAP program has been recognized as evidence that an organization has met the security requirements for the Data at the Point of Care pilot. In order to use the program’s Data APIs, CMS has mandated that providers must provide evidence that their EHR software meets one or more specific security requirements, which includes achieving EHNAC HNAP accreditation.

“Earlier this year, CMS issued a transformative rule that will provide Medicare beneficiaries with unprecedented safe, secure access to their health data so they can make informed healthcare decisions and better manage their care. Data at the Point of Care is an important program aimed at meeting that goal by driving EHR interoperability across all CMS initiatives,” said Lee Barrett, CEO and Executive Director, EHNAC. “We are pleased that EHNAC’s HNAP program has been recognized as a means to ensure secure patient and provider access to Medicare claims data, while adhering to stringent industry-established standards along with HIPAA regulations.”

Part of the MyHealthEData initiative, Data at the Point of Care builds on the agency’s Blue Button 2.0 work and enables providers to deliver high quality care directly to Medicare beneficiaries by making a patient’s Medicare claims data available to the provider for treatment needs. The information can be accessed in existing workflows without logging into another application or portal. Claims data can be used to confirm information, fill in gaps in care, and improve patient safety. The claims data is provided using the industry-standard HL7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) resources, specifically the Bulk FHIR specification.
“Significant progress has been made with adoption of FHIR as the industry works collaboratively towards achieving the important goal of interoperability. For the Data at the Point of Care program, CMS has recognized that FHIR is an industry standard that best supports an EHR’s ability to securely share data between patients and providers,” added Barrett who also serves as a member of the Executive Steering Committee for ONC’s Payer + Provider FAST FHIR Task Force.

The EHNAC criteria for each of its accreditation programs establishes the foundational requirements for measuring an organization’s ability to meet federal and state healthcare reform mandates such as HIPAA, 21st Century Cures, Omnibus, ARRA/HITECH, ACA and other mandates for covered entities and business associates focusing on the areas of privacy, security, confidentiality, best practices, procedures and assets. Healthcare industry stakeholders are encouraged to regularly visit www.ehnac.org to download and review the latest EHNAC criteria versions in full detail.
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