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Have you ever wondered where the well-known term “red tape” originated? The colorful term got its start back in old England where thick legal and government documents were bound or tied with red cloth tape. When someone spoke of cutting through the red tape, it was meant in a very literal sense. And now...well, you know what it refers to.

In this Issue

- ▶ [Think You're HIPAA Compliant? Think Again.](#)
- ▶ [Compliance with the Code](#)
- ▶ [The Ultimate Dental Record](#)

THINK YOU'RE HIPAA COMPLIANT? THINK AGAIN.

New HIPAA Security Regulations Effective April 20, 2005



While most dentists who transmit electronic claims have implemented the HIPAA Privacy regulations by now, many may not realize that there is an entirely new set of HIPAA Security regulations going into effect on April 20, 2005. Is there a difference between the HIPAA privacy regulations and new HIPAA security regulations? Yes. Do you need to worry about the new HIPAA security regulations if you're already compliant with the HIPAA privacy regulations? Yes, again.

[Full Story](#)

[Return to Top](#)

What do YOU think?



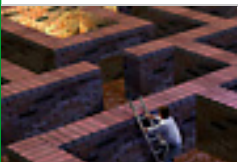
What additional resources would you like the ADA to make available in the area of compliance?

E-mail your response to:
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COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE



Most dentists need to give only a passing thought to compliance with the ADA's *Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct*. Dentists are known for high ethical standards, and the Code's provisions are not onerous, though the provision related to personal impairment is challenging.

[Full Story](#)

[Return to Top](#)

Hot Button Info

THE ULTIMATE DENTAL RECORD



The best dental record is not one kept on paper or on a computer. It is one that is complete, properly documented, including all necessary signatures, and easy to use. In fact, in a recent *Community Brief* article, "Credibility: Winning or Losing a Case," Burton Pollack D.D.S., M.P.H., J.D. states, "The bottom line is that the manner in which a dentist maintains patient records is a major factor in determining credibility. Properly maintained records can be the first line of defense in defending a malpractice suit, and faulty records can be the most important reason for the loss of a suit."

[Full Story](#)

[Return to Top](#)

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