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What does the HIPAA Security Rule mean by physical safeguards?

Question

What does the HIPAA Security Rule mean by physical safeguards?

Answer

Physical safeguards are physical measures, policies, and procedures to protect a covered entity's electronic information systems and related buildings and equipment from natural and environmental hazards, and unauthorized intrusion. The standards under physical safeguards include facility access controls, workstation use, workstation security, and device and media controls. The Security Rule requires covered entities to implement physical safeguard standards for their electronic information systems whether such systems are housed on the covered entity's premises or at another location.