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## **Hospital Settles With OCR for \$4.75 Million Over HIPAA Violations**

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The US Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights (OCR) recently reached a [\\$4.75 million settlement](#) with a New York City hospital for alleged violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

According to OCR, in 2013, a former hospital employee sold the electronically protected medical records of 12,517 patients to an identity theft group, and the NYC hospital did not detect or report the breach to OCR until 2015. OCR's investigation found several potential HIPAA violations, and in addition to the settlement, the hospital agreed to conduct a thorough security risk assessment, revise HIPAA policies, provide additional training to staff, begin recording and tracking all electronic health record (EHR) activity to monitor who is accessing patient information, and create a risk management plan. OCR will also monitor the hospital for two years for compliance with HIPAA.

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