

HIPAA 2005 Security Update PMS Gold Version 8.35 FAQs

Q. How long will the PMS Gold v8.35 update take to install?

- A.** On average, practices should be able to run the update in 30 minutes or less, with no post-conversion tasks or training necessary.

Q. Are there any steps that my practice needs to take to prepare for the update?

- A.** No. Practices need only prepare each of their workstations and servers with passwords and user names. This can be done prior to receiving the update or at the time the update is installed.

Q. When I install the PMS Gold v8.35 update, will my practice be HIPAA 2005 compliant?

- A.** No. The PMS Gold v8.35 is a tool to assist your practice in complying with the “audit” requirements of the rule. The steps to compliance include many procedural elements, of which only a few are related to your practice management software; the balance are the responsibility of each practice. Please see the enclosed *HIPAA 2005 Security Rule – The 54 Steps to Compliance* document.

Q. If I choose not to update my PMS Gold with the v8.35 update, will my GBA software support contract still be valid?

- A.** Yes. GBA will continue to support PMS Gold users that have valid support contracts. While we cannot force your practice to use the software tools provided, we do strongly suggest that you consider the v8.35 update given the penalties for non-compliance and how difficult the manual steps will be to record the necessary audit trails.

Q. My office does not do electronic claims and, therefore, we did not update to the last release – v8.30. So why do I need to be using v8.30 in order for v8.35 to work?

- A.** Each version of the PMS Gold software is interdependent on the other for the necessary enhancements. The “engine” of PMS Gold has been changed to accommodate the different phases of HIPAA. We update the software based on the most recent version. Updating will not force you to do electronic claims if you would prefer to continue submitting paper claims.

Q. Why do I have to update my Windows 98 workstations/servers in order to run the v8.35 update? I am not connected to the Internet.

- A.** V8.35 is a security update. It has no bearing on connectivity issues such as the Internet. As a result of Microsoft’s retiring of Mainstream and Extended Hotfix Support and lack of security features, we have determined that Windows 98 is not a viable platform for meeting the security needs of a practice using PMS Gold. All future PMS Gold releases, including the upcoming v8.35, will no longer function on a Windows 98 client or server. We chose not to build our security release on an insecure platform. Also, the guidelines to compliance in the HIPAA 2005 rule require the secure auditing of ePHI. Any system running Windows 98 would not offer this environment, regardless of Internet connections.