Two-Factor Authentication for Electronic Prescriptions of Controlled Substances

Two-factor authentication protects the prescribers from the misuse of their credential by insiders as well as external threats since prescriber can retain control of the hard token. Authentication based only on knowledge factors is easily subverted because these factors can be observed, guessed, or hacked and used without the prescriber’s knowledge.

Under the interim final rule, DEA is allowing the use of two of the following – something you know (a knowledge factor), something you have (a hard token stored separately from the computer being accessed), and something you are (biometric information). The hard token, if used, must be a cryptographic device or a one-time password device that meets Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 140-2 Security Level 1.

MEDHOST has partnered with Imprivata and Duo to provide facilities with the ability to choose their preferred two-factor authentication vendor for EPCS.