

Cybersecurity from a healthcare professional perspective

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Hospitals at the moment can't handle Cyberattacks

- Healthcare operations nowadays are increasingly based and dependent from information systems
- Legacy connected devices represent a major risk (black boxes) designed when cybersecurity attacks were not envisaged
- ▶ The increase of connected devices both inside and outside the Hospital is putting the patient and the Hospital at even greater risk due to hackability
- Hospitals are like "seaports" (fully open to relatives, suppliers, all)
- Constant appearance of new threats (e.i. possibility of adding a tumor directly to a radiography exam)
- Cyberthreats are on the rise (87 billion in 2018 on 3 million assisted patients)
- Hospital structures and administrations are focalizing mainly on protection of patient data (because of possible legal consequences)
- Unpreparedness of Hospitals due to many different causes



Cybersecurity of patient data

- Security of patient data is not guaranteed.
- ▶ EHR can be found on the dark web for very low prices
- PHI (patient health information) are more important than PII (personally identifiable information)
- Cyberattacks are not immediately identified: most of them are discovered after they have been active for 18 months
- How as a doctor, nurse, health practioner am I responsible for this? What can I do?



Main types of cyberthreats daily experienced in Hospitals

- Data Breaches
 - o PHI and PII: over 15 million health records have been compromised by data breaches in the last year
- Ransomware:
 - phishing with attachments
 - clicking on malicious link
 - viewing advertisement
 - RaaS (Ransomware as a Service!)
- DDoS attacks
 - while most are opportunistic and accidental, many target victims (Hospitals) for social, political, ideological or financial causes related to a situation that angers cyberthreat actors. Medical operations may create conditions of anger/revenge
- Insider threats
 - o insiders have legitimate access to the system so they do not have to face traditional cybersecurity defences, the best defence against these threats is by other insiders
- Business email compromise and frauds
 - o scammers pretend to be a person of power (e.g. CEO, supervisor). Very effective because they are well targeted (These threats have risen by 1300% since 2015).



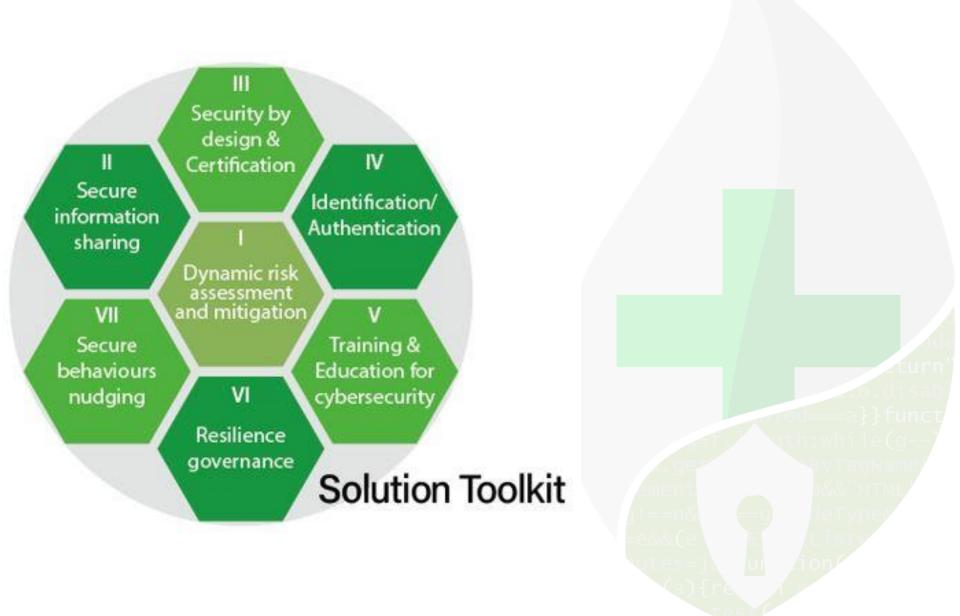
What to do?

- Very little help at the moment from Hospital administration and governace
- Scarse knowledge of the ICT technology underlying the systems and devices we utilize
- Present methods to guarantee cybersecurity in our systems are time consuming: nurses, technicians and doctors must daily identify on different terminals and devices much more often than employees working in other industries or roles



Involvement of Healthcare staff together with ICT staff to identify risks, work methodology and possible solutions.







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