SECURING HEALTH INFORMATION IN THE CLOUD

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Conflict of Interest Disclosure
Feisal Nanji, MPP, CISSP

Has no real or apparent
conflicts of interest to report.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Describe the advantages of Cloud computing for Health Providers
- Identify the major concerns of securing health information in the cloud
- Recognize the key steps to overcoming health information security and privacy issues in the cloud
- Define a suitable audit and compliance process to ensure security and privacy in the cloud

On Cloud Nine

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WHAT SHOULD YOU TAKE AWAY?

1. <u>Level set</u> – Core technology for cloud computing
2. Cloud computing -- variants
3. What are the key compliance / security concerns of the cloud?
4. How should we manage security in the cloud?

CORE TECHNOLOGY

- Fast networks

- Web enabled eco-system

- The "Virtual Machine"

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VIRTUALIZATION CONCERNS…

- Increases complexity
- Strains infrastructure
- Can cause large-scale failure
- Requires special maintenance

THIS ALLOWS……

- Computing capability on demand

- Resource pooling – storage, CPU

- Rapid deployment and scaling of IT services

- Easy measurement of what's been used

LEADING TO CLOUD VARIANTS….

- Infrastructure as a service (IaaS)

- Platform as a service (PaaS)

- Software as a service (SaaS)

Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)

APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACES

VIRTUALIZATION   AND CORE CONNECTIVITY

HARDWARE AND DATA CENTER FACILITIES

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Platform as a Service (PaaS)

INTEGRATION AND MIDDLEWARE

APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACES

VIRTUALIZATION   AND CORE CONNECTIVITY

HARDWARE AND DATA CENTER FACILITIES

Software as a Service (SaaS)

 PRESENTATION

 APPLICATIONS

 DATA AND CONTENT

 INTEGRATION AND MIDDLEWARE

 APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACES

 VIRTUALIZATION   AND CORE CONNECTIVITY

 HARDWARE AND DATA CENTER FACILITIES

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CLOUD: A SUMMARY

Broad Network Access	Rapid Elasticity	Measured Service	On-Demand Self-Service
Resource Pooling			

Essential Characteristics

Software as a Service (SaaS)	Platform as a Service (PaaS)	Infrastructure as a Service (SaaS)

Service Models

Public	Private	Hybrid	Community

Deployment Models

CLOUD – HELPING HEALTH CARE….

- Providers, EMR vendors, Health Plans, Government, HIE etc.

- Cheaper and faster

- Better compliance (security)???

TRADITIONAL DATA CENTER SECURITY APPROACHES...

- Physical configuration management governs deployment and control implementation --- standards for specification, configuration, and operation

- Physical control as the ultimate breakwater for logical access control to platforms and applications

- Enterprise policies and organization for separation of duties and control

- Patch testing and patch management ... physical-platform- by-physical-platform

- Data and applications are wherever the machine is and networks are between machines

BUT AS "PHYSICAL" VISIBILITY IS LOST….

- Where is the data?

- Who can see the data?

- Who has seen the data?

- Has data been tampered?

- Where is processing performed?

- How is processing configured?

- Does backup happen? How? Where?

AND COMPLIANCE -- IS NOT JUST SECURITY

1	**HIPAA Security**
2	**Medical Fraud**
3	**e- Prescribing**
4	**Mental and behavioral health**
5	**Health Information Exchange**
6	**Health Quality reporting**
7	**Policy, Procedure Mgt.**
8	**Medical Research**
9	**Payment Card Industry (PCI)**
10	**FTC Red Flags Rule**

HEALTH CARE COMPLIANCE AND THE CLOUD

TYPES OF AUDITS	PERFORMED BY	AUGMENTED BY
⬇	⬇	⬇
Systems Reviews	Dept of Health and Human Services(CMS)	Audit tools and legal framework
Transaction Reviews	Independent Review Organizations	Internal audit processes
Policy and Procedure Reviews	States	**Information technology**
Risk Assessments	Federal Trade Commission	
	Payment Card Industry (PCI)	
	Customers / Business Associates	
	Internal Audit	
	Food and Drug Adminstration (FDA)	

Information Security

Compliance Processes

Information Architecture

Requires an <u>interconnected</u> strategy

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ARE YOU CLOUD READY?

- Have you standardized most commonly repeated operating procedures?

- Have you fully automated deployment and management?

- Can you provide self-service access for users?

- Are your business units ready to share the same infrastructure?

MAJOR CLOUD COMPLIANCE ISSUES INCLUDE:

- <u>Data ownership and control</u>
  - Trust ,consequences and chain of custody
  - Access and authentication

- <u>Facilities and service provision</u>
  - e.g. shared data centers / resources

- <u>Administration</u>
  - Policies, transparency, auditing

KEY CLOUD SECURITY CONCERNS

- Virtualization software (e.g., hypervisor) risk exposure

- Inability to determine location of data or processing

- Mobility among VM's **contradicts** control principles; boundaries become unreliable and blurred

- Limited visibility into host O/S's and virtual network (to find vulnerabilities and assess/report configuration, patching)

LEAD TO VERY GRANULAR ISSUES:

- Security policies need to shift "up the stack" to match logical attributes

- Network Access control and Intrusion Prevention

- Root kit Detection

- Inter VM traffic analysis

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Move away from physical attributes for meeting compliance

- Application, Identity and Content awareness

CORE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Think of information security as a set of adaptive services integrated with **compliance** requirements and **Information Architecture/Design**

- Get security vendors to deliver their security controls in a virtualized form

- Express security policy across physical, virtualized and private cloud-computing environments

- Maintain separation of duties between security policy enforcement and IT operations

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LINKING PEOPLE, POTENTIAL AND PROGRESS

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