

Your Key to HIPAA Compliance®

Jeff Mongelli *CEO*Acentec, Inc.







# **Today's Topics**

- Current HIPAA enforcement to be aware of.
- Increasing cyber risk in healthcare.
- Best practices for improving your cybersecurity.
- We've been attacked, now what?







# **New HIPAA Regulations in 2022**

- Allowing patients to inspect their PHI in person and take notes or photographs of their PHI.
- Changing the maximum time to provide access to PHI from 30 days to 15 days.
- HIPAA-covered entities will be required to post estimated fee schedules on their websites for PHI access and disclosures.
- The requirement for HIPAA-covered entities to obtain written confirmation that a Notice of Privacy practices has been provided has been dropped.







# **New HIPAA Regulations in 2022**

- CEs will be allowed to disclose PHI to avert a threat to health or safety when harm is "seriously and reasonably foreseeable." The current definition is when harm is "serious and imminent."
- Patient acknowledgment of notice of privacy practices will no longer be required.
- The minimum necessary rule for PHI will have an exception to allow for disclosures for care coordination.
- "Healthcare operations" has been broadened to cover care coordination and case management.







#### **Current HIPAA Enforcement**

- The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is the HIPAA enforcement arm of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
- Enforcement efforts highly focused on patient Right of Access.
  - In CA you have 15 days to provide medical records in the format requested.
  - https://oag.ca.gov/privacy/facts/medicalprivacy/patient-rights







#### **HIPAA** Wall of Shame

Breach Report Results							
Expand All	Name of Covered Entity \$	State	Covered Entity Type \$	Individuals Affected ≎	Breach Submission Date \$	Type of Breach	Location of Breached Information
0	Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections	LA	Healthcare Provider	85466	10/31/2022	Unauthorized Access/Disclosure	Network Server
0	St Luke's Health - Texas	TX	Healthcare Provider	16906	10/30/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Email
0	Coastal Horizons Center Inc.	NC	Healthcare Provider	679	10/25/2022	Unauthorized Access/Disclosure	Electronic Medical Record
0	Resource Anesthesiology Associates of NM Inc	NY	Healthcare Provider	7054	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Resource Anesthesiology Associates Of KY PSC	NY	Healthcare Provider	8980	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Resource Anesthesiology Associates of CT PC	NY	Healthcare Provider	3123	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Resource Anesthesiology Associates of VA LLC	NY	Healthcare Provider	3305	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Somnia, Inc.	NY	Healthcare Provider	1326	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Somnia Pain Mgt of Kentucky	NY	Healthcare Provider	10848	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Saddlebrook Anesthesia Services PC	NJ	Healthcare Provider	8861	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Primary Anesthesia Services	NY	Healthcare Provider	9517	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Mid-Westchester Anesthesia Services PC	NY	Healthcare Provider	707	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Regions Hospital	MN	Healthcare Provider	978	10/24/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Massengale Eye Care	OK	Healthcare Provider	15000	10/21/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Network Server
0	Phoenix Programs of Florida, Inc.	FL	Healthcare	6594	10/21/2022	Hacking/IT Incident	Email

https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/breach/breach\_report.jsf







Your Key to HIPAA Compliance®
An Acentec Solution

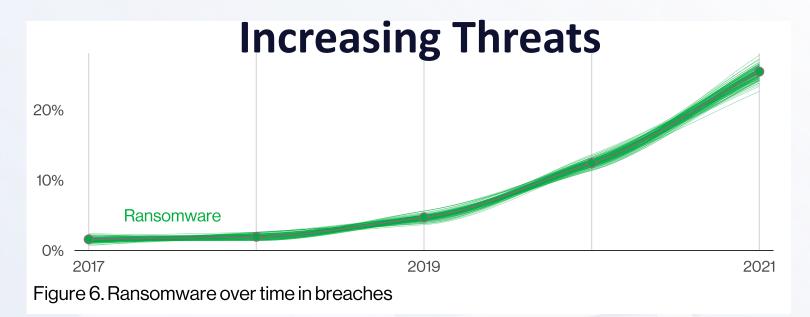








Your Key to HIPAA Compliance®
An Acentec Solution



- This year ransomware has continued its upward trend with an almost 13% rise – an increase as big as the last five years combined.
- Blocking the four key paths helps to block the common routes ransomware uses to invade your network.

Source: Verizon 2022 Data Breach Investigation Report







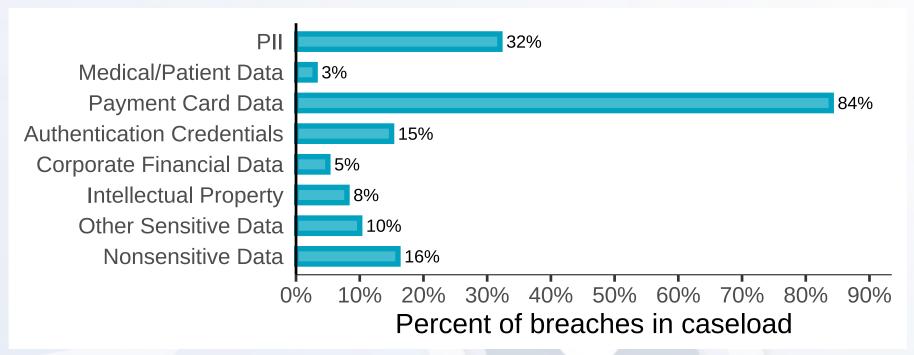
- Cybercriminals are moving their attacks to mobile and personal communication channels to reach employees. SlashNext recorded a 50% increase in attacks on mobile devices, with scams and credential theft at the top of the list of payloads.
- In 2022, they detected an 80% increase in threats from trusted services such as Microsoft, Amazon Web Services or Google, with nearly one-third (32%) of all threats now being hosted on trusted services
- 54% of all threats detected in 2022 were zero-hour threats, showing how hackers are shifting tactics in real-time to improve success
- 76% of threats were targeted spear phishing credential harvesting attacks
- The top 3 attack sectors are Healthcare, Professional and Scientific Services, and Information Technology

Source: SlashNext State of Phishing Report for 2022









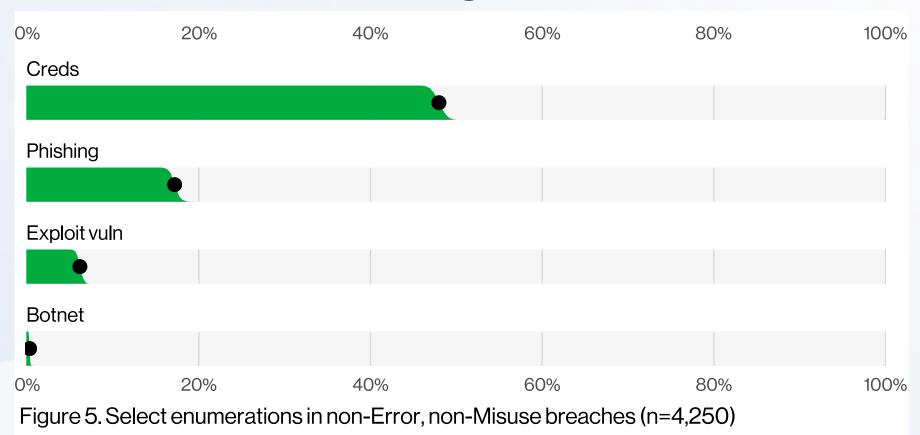
 PHI is immutable – it's easier to change your social security number than it is to change your medical history.

Source: Verizon 2022 Data Breach Investigation Report









Source: Verizon 2022 Data Breach Investigation Report







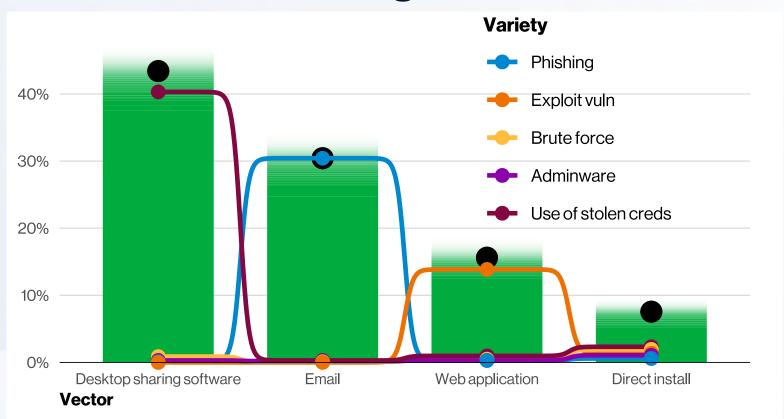


Figure 39. Select action varieties within vectors in System Intrusion Ransomware incidents (n=1,032)

Source: Verizon 2022 Data Breach Investigation Report







**An Acentec Solution** 











# Best Practices

For Improving your Cybersecurity.







# **Today's Definitions**

- For our conversation today:
  - A solo practice shall be defined as an individual provider working alone, typically using a portable device for encounters.
  - Small practice a single provider working with a staff up to 10 providers







#### 1. Keep hardware and software up to date.

- a. Phase out Windows 10 devices.
- b. Ensure software updates are being run check at least weekly.
- c. Firewall should be running antivirus if it can't, upgrade it if it's offered, pay for it.







#### 2. Use data encryption.

- For solo practitioners MANDATORY that your portable device's hard drive is encrypted AND can be remotely wiped.
- b. Small practices date AT REST and in transit needs to be encrypted – yes, that includes emails, regardless of PHI content or not.
- ALL backups and cloud storage should be encrypted AND a copy of backups should be kept offline.

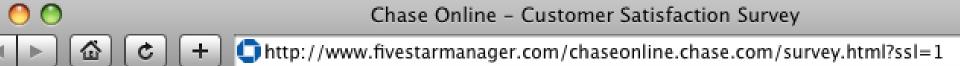






#### 3. Pause before you click.

- a. Don't open unknown email attachments
- b. Don't click links in emails or on websites
- c. Confirm URLs











- 4. Use anti-virus and anti-malware software.
  - a. At the perimeter
  - b. On every device
  - c. Yes, you should be running BOTH.







- 5. Use a virtual private network (VPN) when remote.
  - a. If you must use a public wifi (please don't), then at least use a VPN
  - b. A VPN will encrypt all of your traffic







- 6. Disable Bluetooth when not in use.
  - a. Bluetooth can be hacked and if you aren't using it, turn it off.







- 7. Use two factor authentication (2FA).
  - a. 2FA, while not perfect, adds exponentially to the complexity of being hacked or having your stolen credentials effectively used.







- 8. Use complex passwords.
  - a. At least 16 characters
  - Use a password manager like LastPass or Roboform to simplify handling.







#### 9. Train, train, train!

- a. Cybersecurity training should be done regularly, at least monthly.
- b. Create a culture of constant consciousness and awareness of cybersecurity issues.







#### 10. Test your security.

- a. Solo practitioners run network scans to find weaknesses
- b. Small practices run penetration tests to test defenses
- c. Use a third party for professional results.







# Hacked? Now what?







# **Being Prepared**

- Have an action plan!
- Contact your IT company to stop further damage
- Contact CAP or your cyber insurance carrier
- Contact local LE and the FBI







# **Questions?**







Your Key to HIPAA Compliance®
An Acentec Solution

# Thank you

# Jeff Mongelli, Founder & CEO Acentec, Inc.

**HIPAA Compliance | Healthcare IT Management | Cybersecurity Testing** 

jeffm@acentec.com | 800-970-0402 | www.acentec.com





Federal Cyber Health Working Group







