

Simple Cost-Effective Strategies for Securing Documents in Your Therapy Practice

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Objective

An educational survey of strategies to help educate practice managers of the necessity and methods of data integrity and security

Why Practices Fail to Safeguard Data?

- ✓ No Technical Staff
- ✓ Limited Information Technology Budget
- ✓ No Policy Guidelines for Data Integrity
- ✓ Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt (FUD)



Figure 1 – Data Integrity LifeCycle
<https://securosis.com/tag/information-centric+security>

Opportunities for Private Practice

- ✓ Data Ownership
- ✓ Low Cost Local Storage
- ✓ Virtual Private Network and Cloud Technologies
- ✓ Client Relationship Management (CRM)



Figure 2 – Master Data Management
<http://blog.edgewater.com/2009/12/23/tackling-the-tough-one-master-data-management-for-the-healthcare-enterprise/>

Development of Sound Data Management Policies Generally Leads to a More Efficient Organization

Cloud Fallacies

- ✓ HIPAA Compliant By Default
- ✓ Eliminates Need For Back Ups
- ✓ Guarantees High Availability
- ✓ Only Accomplished Via 3rd Party Vendor

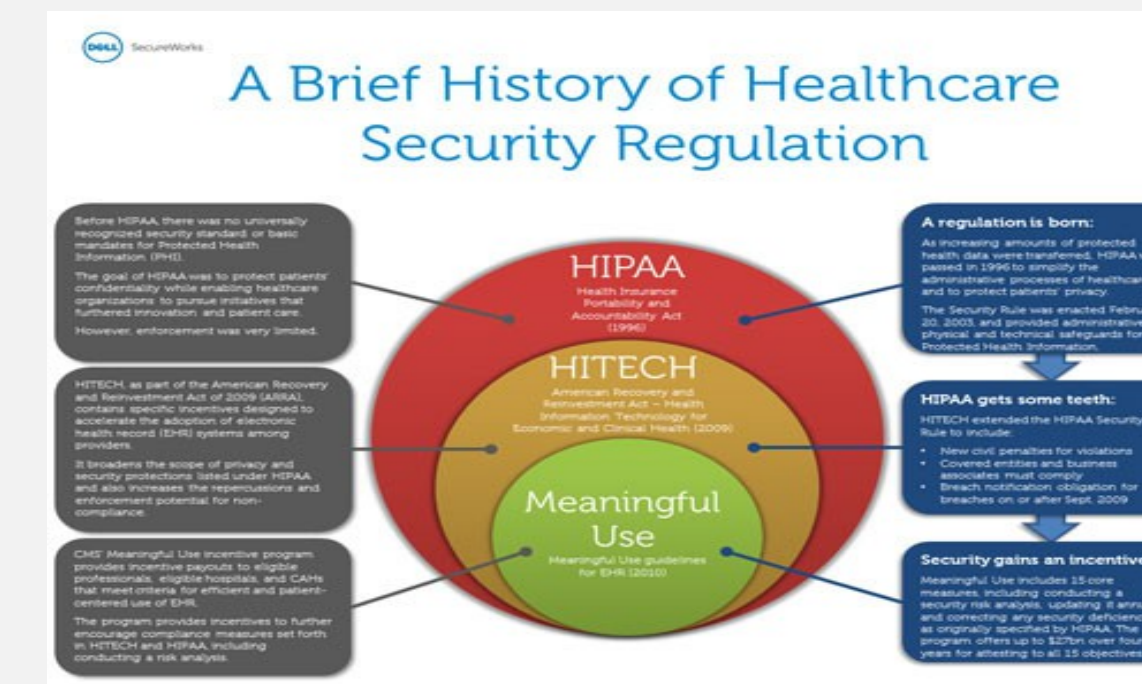


Figure 3 – Healthcare Security Process
<http://www.secureworks.com/compliance/hipaa/>

Cloud Computing Often Refers to Virtualized Data Storage or Software Applications Which Consumers Lease For a Fee

Note – Physical Data Security is Equally Important. Your Clinical Staff Must Understand Client Confidentiality and Not Fall Victim to Phishing and Social Engineering

Best Practices

- ✓ Networked Computing
- ✓ Virtual Private Networking
- ✓ Strong Data Encryption
- ✓ Enforced Security Policy

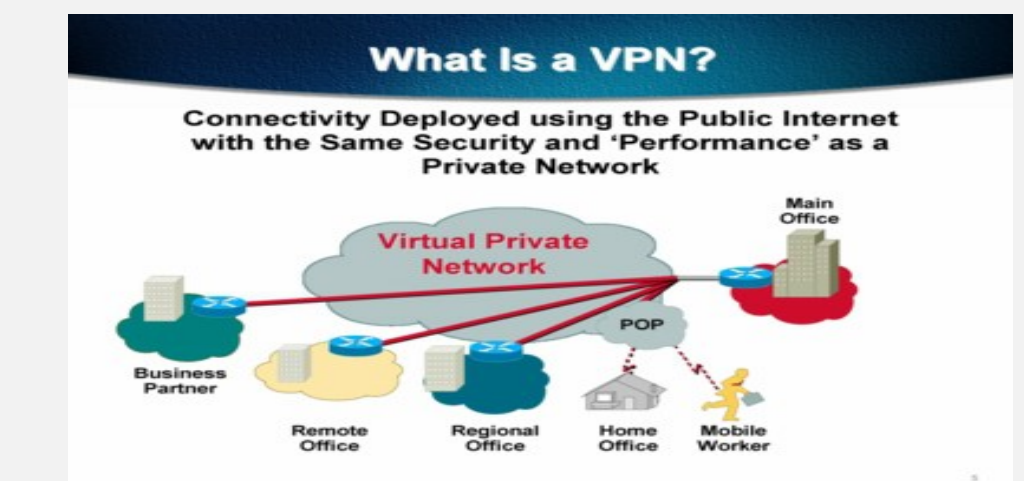


Figure 4 – Virtual Private Network
<http://www.netalliance.net/prodsvcs/virtp.html>

Cloud Data Storage Strategies

- ✓ Secure Socket Layer VPN
- ✓ Google Drive
- ✓ Drop Box
- ✓ Amazon S3

Note – While the Above Strategies are Fairly Common They Do Not Offer Equivalent Benefits and May Not Satisfy Your Preferred Data Security Policy