

# Information Security for Healthcare Organizations

Healthcare organizations have critical data and technology needs unique to health and medical environments.

Medical professionals perform a balancing act with information. Getting information where it needs to be quickly and accurately; then making sure access is controlled and data does not fall into the wrong hands.

The medical field moves at an incredible pace with advances in care and research. Technology has been part of this progress with diagnostic tools, data processing, and systems that share information help to drive innovation and discoveries.

Collectively this infrastructure of knowledge and technology must be secure, yet useable by the people that depend on it.

Securing the organization provides assurance for critical data and sensitive information. These efforts also provide an understanding of how data and systems perform and interface. This insight provides a basis for oversight and identification of other opportunities for improvements such as creating management visualizations, optimizing organizational performance, and revenue cycle enhancements.

#### **Getting Secure:**

- Security must cover all aspects of systems, data, networks, and people.
- Address the entire processing life cycle and all parties that handle the data.
- Physical and low-tech components need to be secured as part of the interconnected security landscape.

### Getting started:

#### 1. Know where you stand.

- a. Risk Assessments combine quantitative and qualitative data to identify and understand the threats facing the organization and your exposure to them.
- Bringing in compliance expertise to determine what compliance with HIPAA, FISMA, Meaningful Use, etc. mean to your organization.

#### 2. Test & Evaluate.

- Perform automated vulnerability scans to assess networks, interfaces, and all the components attached to them (laptops, smart phones, tablets, etc.)
- Conduct penetration tests to evaluate how well your current security practices perform to find gaps and weaknesses.

#### 3. Be proactive.

- a. Prioritize corrective actions based on likelihood and severity of impact.
- b. Develop practical steps and track their accomplishment.

### What do you get? Results delivered:

#### 1. Insight of your current posture:

- Executive level dashboards
- Detailed group and technical details

#### 2. Roadmap of prioritized items to address:

- Specific steps and actions, grouped by urgency
- Planned activity to make efforts doable given other responsibilities

#### 3. Tools to track and address corrective actions:

- Secure private Cloud Portal to manage and store your data and information safely
- Plan work efforts
- Track work accomplishment
- Adjust efforts as things change

NCG brings expertise, tools and methods to sort out requirements, identify the steps to take, and how to accomplish greater levels of security tailored to each individual enterprise.

## Leveraging Security Efforts for other Opportunities...

#### **Performance Improvements:**

- Process improvements
- Staffing modeling
- Cost management

#### **Compliance:**

- Customized compliance approach that fits in with your operations and development processes
- Reporting requirements
- Conformance Checklists and Demonstrations

#### **Preparedness:**

- Continuity of operations
- Contingency planning
- Modernization

The Northcross Group (NCG) provides business system, security, and technology services. NCG works to ensure that technology serves our clients, allowing them to meet business goals, gain competitive advantage, enhance security, implement governance, ensure compliance, and stabilize operations.

NCG consultants bring a blend of technical and business acumen with a proven track record in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. We approach challenges head-on and figure out the most effective way to leverage technology to reach objectives.

NCG uses disciplined processes, refined from decades of experience. Flexibility is a cornerstone of our industry-tested methodologies—giving NCG the ability to adapt to changing environments and your needs.

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