Prior to the survey, in-depth research and 12 phone interviews were conducted with physicians, technology leaders, third-party vendors and government officials to understand physicians’ attitudes toward cybersecurity, data management and compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The interviews were conducted between April and August 2017. The interviews were conducted by Accenture Technology, with inputs from Accenture Health, and were assisted by Accenture Security. The findings suggest a significant gap between the security needs of healthcare providers and the cybersecurity resources available to them.

**FIVE KEY FINDINGS**

**1. Cyberattacks are widespread.**

- **83%** of physicians say their practices have experienced at least one cyberattack.
- **55%** say they need more training to protect sensitive information.

**2. Cyberattacks can lead to loss of revenue, patient downtime, and loss of patient safety.**

- **74%** of physicians say they are concerned about loss of revenue due to cyberattacks.
- **53%** say they are concerned about loss of patient safety.

**3. Most physicians think that asking third-party vendors to provide HIPAA and security training is important.**

- **85%** of physicians say they believe HIPAA training should be a part of the vendor’s contract.
- **60%** say they believe HIPAA training should be a part of IT vendors’ contracts.

**4. Physicians trust third-party vendors to provide HIPAA and security training and support.**

- **56%** believe that third-party vendors have the necessary knowledge to provide training.
- **49%** believe that third-party vendors have the necessary knowledge to provide support.

**5. New technologies will bring many benefits to physicians but also new security challenges.**

- **33%** believe that the cloud is the best way to improve patient care.
- **28%** believe that the cloud can improve operational efficiency.

**METHODOLOGY**

Accenture and the AMA surveyed 1,000 physicians in the United States to assess their experience and attitudes toward cybersecurity, data management and HIPAA compliance. The interviews were conducted between April and August 2017. The interviews were conducted by Accenture Technology, with inputs from Accenture Health, and were assisted by Accenture Security. The findings suggest a significant gap between the security needs of healthcare providers and the cybersecurity resources available to them.

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