Health Industry Publishes
Cybersecurity Information Sharing Best Practices

Washington, D.C., March 11, 2020 - The Healthcare and Public Health Sector Coordinating Council (HSCC) today released best practices for how healthcare organizations can set up and manage cyber threat information sharing programs for their enterprise. The Health Industry Cybersecurity Information Sharing Best Practices (HIC-ISBP) is the 2nd HSCC cybersecurity publication for the health sector in 2020, and its 7th overall.

Building on the September 2019 publication of the HSCC Matrix of Information Sharing Organizations, which listed numerous information sharing organizations that health institutions may leverage for threat intelligence sharing, the HIC-ISBP advises healthcare enterprises about how to manage the information they have gleaned from their participation in collaboratives such as the Health Information Sharing and Analysis Center (H-ISAC), government resources and other industry Information Sharing Analysis Organizations (ISAOs).

The HIC-ISBP also directly addresses “Imperative 6” of a 2017 report by the Health Care Industry Cybersecurity Task Force, a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)-appointed task force that called on industry and HHS to “improve information sharing of industry threats, risks and mitigations.”

“Information sharing programs, when done properly, produce significant benefit at low risk for the organizations that participate,” said Errol Weiss, Chief Security Officer of the Health Information Sharing and Analysis Center (H-ISAC) and co-chair of the HSCC task group that created the HIC-ISBP. “This document provides Healthcare and Public Health Sector (HPH) organizations with a set of guidelines and best practices for efficient and effective information sharing.”

Task Group co-lead Bill Hagestad, who serves as Medtronic’s Senior Principal Product Security Engineer, added that the HIC-ISBP “addresses real and perceived barriers to information sharing that are often found from laws, regulations, corporate policies or management support, and will help organizations work through these obstacles.”

The HSCC encourages health information sharing organizations to use this document as the basis of their own Information Sharing Best Practices Guidelines. Organizations can customize the content provided here for their own information sharing environment.
Other HSCC Joint Cybersecurity Working Group resources published in 2019 and 2020 include:


About the Healthcare and Public Health Sector Coordinating Council (HSCC) Joint Cybersecurity Working Group (JCWG). The HSCC is an industry-driven public private partnership of health companies and providers developing collaborative solutions to mitigate threats to critical healthcare infrastructure. It is one of 16 critical infrastructure sectors organized to partner with the government under Presidential Policy Directive 21 – Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience. The HSCC Joint Cybersecurity Working Group (JCWG) includes more than 250 medical device and health IT companies, direct patient care entities, plans and payers, labs, blood and pharmaceutical companies, and several government partners.

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