

Healthcare Technology Advice for the Modern Independent Practice

WHAT'S NEW

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, because there are scarier things out there than ghosts and ghouls!

Cybersecurity isn't just the anti-virus software on your computer. It's not just the firewall installed on your office network. The most likely way a malicious program will make its way into your network is through human error. That's why awareness and training are such integral parts of your network's protection.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 13th 7:30am-2pm
Back In The Game Of Healthcare
Greater St. Louis MGMA
Annual Fall Conference



See more at: htadvisorsllc.com/events

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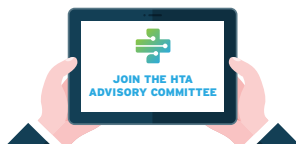
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Healthcare Technology Advisors

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This monthly publication is provided courtesy of Derrick Weisbrod, CEO, and the Healthcare Technology Advisors Team.

Our mission is to be trusted advisors guiding healthcare businesses through the complex IT and HIPAA landscape while providing a comprehensive service that always maintains a human touch.



SPOTLIGHT: METRO EAST DERMATOLOGY PRACTICE GROWS



Metro East Dermatology and Skin Cancer Center recently celebrated their four year anniversary. Soon they will be celebrating another milestone - moving into their own facility.

Metro East Dermatology broke ground at 331 Regency Park Drive in O'Fallon, IL last year. Since then, patients and staff have watched the building come together from beams to concrete to a parking lot!

With the addition of Dr. Diana Vork, the practice will need the extra room in their 12,000 square foot building as they expand their capabilities and offerings to the wonderful community of patients who have made it all possible. Doctor Jamie McGinnes and Nurse Practitioner Jackie McGinnes are excited to have a permanent home for their practice as it continues to grow.

TECH TIP: GUARDING THE GATES OF HIPAA COMPLIANCE

What is your first step when a HIPAA Audit comes?

HIPAA audits ask such a broad range of questions and require so many varied reports it can be overwhelming to ever even start! Without expert guidance it can seem impossible. The amount of training, research, and legal knowledge necessary to understand compliance technicalities are far beyond the resources generally available to small businesses.

That's why Healthcare Technology Advisors partners with Compliancy Group. Through their automated compliance solution, The Guard, every team can access comprehensive HIPAA training. Rather than having one of your nurses or doctors spend hours digging through the legal weeds, Compliancy Group directs you to exactly the questions and data that need your attention in the event of an audit or in the routine procedures to close your compliance gaps.



GET IN THE GAME!



The Greater St. Louis MGMA is thrilled to invite our community of healthcare professionals to the LIVE Annual Fall Conference, "Back In The Game Of Healthcare."

The conference begins on Wednesday October 13th at Orlando's Maryland Heights. From 7:30am to 1:45pm enjoy two general sessions and four breakout sessions as you learn, connect, and educate yourself.

Greater St. Louis MGMA's mission is to nurture healthcare practices to reach peak performance and create exceptional experiences. Through networking, education, and access to resources, MGMA helps physicians and healthcare professionals to improve, reset, rejuvenate, and rededicate themselves.

Although continuing education is the theme of many professional conferences, another vital piece of the puzzle is the human connections made among our members and attendees. With the ongoing strain of increasing burnout among healthcare professionals, this personal connection is even more important.

Many members of the community are presenting this year, sharing their knowledge and experiences.



Chris Morgan, President of R3 Dynamics, LLC.



Dan Iadevito, VP and Business Banker Lead Team of Enterprise Bank & Trust.



Dale Kreienkamp, President of Thriving Through Transitions



Debra O'Shea, Founder of Epoxy Healthcare



Barbara Faupel, Practice Manager of Allergy Consultants and Past President of St. Louis MGMA

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH



Remember the tidal wave of COVID-19 themed phishing scams that swamped businesses in early 2020? That eventually petered out into a trickle as everyone adjusted to the new normal. But just like the virus, COVID-19 phishing scams have come roaring back to global attention. As the Delta variant has become a concern for people worldwide, a new wave of pandemic-themed phishing scams is bringing cybercrime danger to your team's inboxes.

Always a threat to your practice, phishing risk is ramping up with a 33% increase in June 2021. Both search volume around the Delta variant and scams related to it started climbing in that month and have continued to surge, showing just how influential new opportunities for phishing around Delta have been in changing the course of cybercrime.

Employees are faced with a host of tempting lures that are being sent out as part of this new crop of fraud attempts. Phishing through attachments has become a big problem with 44% of the malicious attachments that businesses have seen are through Microsoft Office documents. Ransomware is just one of the hazards of interacting with malicious attachments.

Credential compromise is a high priority for cybercriminals. Such information can be sold on the dark web for immediate profit or used down the line to carry out more sophisticated attacks. They're using enticing bait to draw employee interest. In one prominent scam, bad actors are spoofing emails from

major company HR departments and state agencies asking employees to confirm health information or provide their proof of vaccination by visiting a fake web page that enables the bad guys to steal their credentials.

Awareness = Alertness

It is vital to train your employees on how to avoid phishing scams. Any time ANY email is received that asks them to click a link to log in and "fix" or "update" an account, they should be skeptical. Check the email it was sent from - often, that one step will show that the email address is NOTHING like the name the message claims to be from. Navigate independently to the mentioned account to see if there are any problems. And lastly, if the message is from someone within your own company, verify it through a phone call.

Training your employees on how to spot and react to phishing emails is vital, but it's not the only precaution that should be taken. Sometimes credentials are compromised through no fault of your own, such as when third-party software is breached. To protect against that, it's important to have identity monitoring in place for your business and personal accounts. This can be a solution such as **Dark Web ID**, which will constantly monitor the dark web for any sign of credentials related to your business. Because we believe Dark Web ID is the best monitoring service available, the first 10 businesses to sign up for Dark Web ID with us will get 3 months free!

Make a point this month to raise awareness about the cyber security risks your practice faces and to guide your employees on how to respond. By being more aware, you can greatly curb the risk cyber attacks pose to your practice. Call Healthcare Technology Advisors today to schedule a Cyber Security Network Check and ask about our Employee Training for cyber security.

Call 314.312.4701 or go online to find out now how you can raise awareness and lower your risk.