## VA Security Workshop 2010 Information Security, Putting the Pieces Together. . .

## the intersection of privacy and security

September 16, 2010 Deborah C. Peel, MD

#### patientprivacyrights

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## security and privacy clinical justification for security

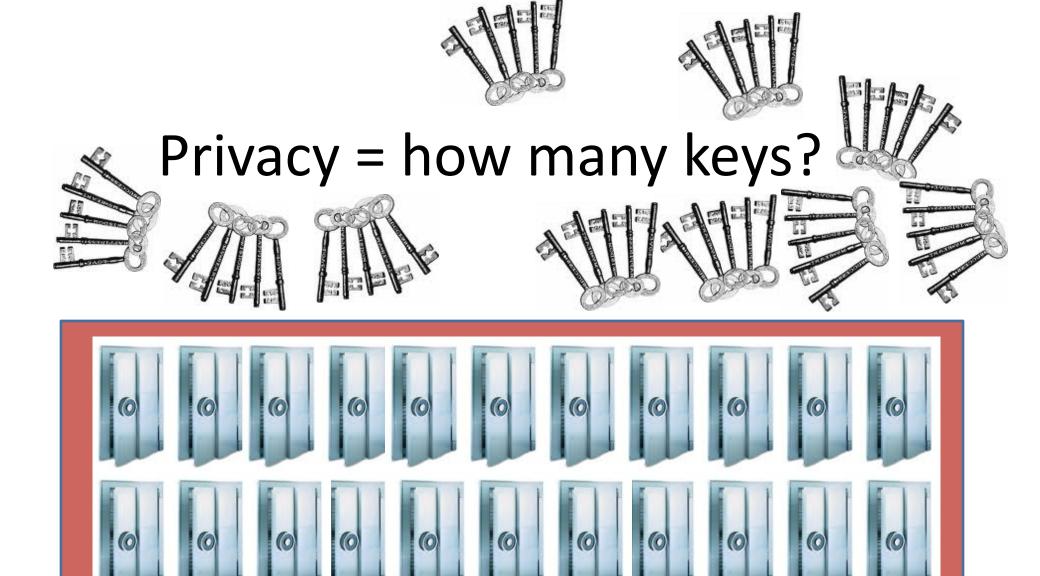
- patients' expectations/rights
- liability/reputation

privacy-enabling security (encryption, authentication/segmentation, etc)

HITECH: consumer protections Consumer Choices Technology Hearing

ideal HIT systems, VA?

### security ≠ privacy



Security

#### What does 'privacy' mean?

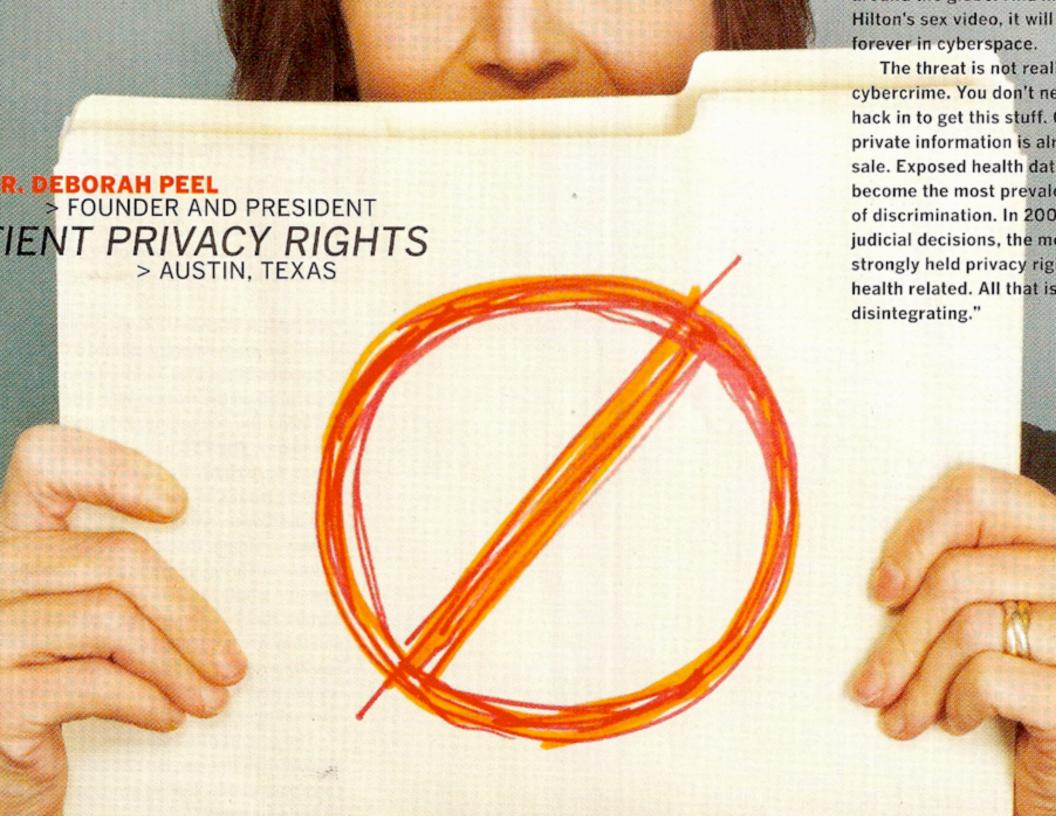
The NCVHS defined health information privacy as

"an individual's right to control the acquisition, uses, or disclosures of his or her identifiable health data".

(June 2006, NCVHS Report to Sec. Leavitt, definition originally from the IOM)

### privacy = control

## comprehensive and meaningful privacy and security



## 10 Million Americans Expect Privacy and Security

#### The bipartisan Coalition for Patient Privacy, 2010

#### **AIDS Action**

**American Association of People with Disabilities** 

American Association of Practicing Psychiatrists

**American Chiropractic Association** 

**American Civil Liberties Union** 

American Conservative Union

American Psychoanalytic Association

**Association of American Physicians and Surgeons** 

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

Bob Barr (former Congressman R-GA)

Citizens for Health

Citizen Outreach Project

**Clinical Social Work Association** 

**Consumer Action** 

Consumers for Health Care Choices

**Cyber Privacy Project** 

**Doctors for Open Government** 

**Ethics in Government Group** 

Fairfax County Privacy Council

**Family Research Council** 

Free Congress Foundation

Georgians for Open Government

**Gun Owners of America** 

Health Administration Responsibility Project, Inc.

Just Health

**Multiracial Activist** 

**Microsoft Corporation Inc.** 

National Center for Transgender Equality

The National Center for Mental Health Prof. & Consumers

National Whistleblower Center

National Workrights Institute

**Natural Solutions Foundation** 

**New Grady Coalition** 

**Pain Relief Network** 

**Patient Privacy Rights Foundation** 

**Privacy Activism** 

**Privacy Rights Now Coalition** 

Private Citizen, Inc.

**Republican Liberty Caucus** 

Student Health Integrity Project

**TexPIRG** 

Thoughtful House Center for Autism

Tolven, Inc.

Tradition, Family, Property, Inc.

Universata, Inc.

U.S. Bill of Rights Foundation

You Take Control, Inc.

## clinical justification for security: patients' expectations and rights

## AHRQ: 2009 20 focus groups expect control

- A majority want to "own" their health data, and to decide what goes into and who has access to their medical records. (AHRQ p. 6)
- A majority believe their medical data is "no one else's business" and should not be shared without their permission....not about sensitive data but "a matter of principle". (AHRQ p. 18)

## AHRQ: 2009 20 focus groups expect control

- no support for general rules that apply to all consumers
- consumers should exert control over their own health information individually, rather than collectively.(AHRQ p. 29)

AHRQ Publication No. 09-0081-EF "Final Report: Consumer Engagement in Developing Electronic Health Information Systems" Prepared by: Westat, (July 2009)

http://healthit.ahrq.gov/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS 0 1248 888520 0 0 18/09-0081-EF.pdf

## 2006 Privacy and EHR Systems: Can We Avoid A Looming Conflict?

42% of public feels potential privacy risks outweigh potential EHR benefits

60% of public wants to know EHR impacts and the *right to choose* how records used

http://patientprivacyrights.org/media-center/polls/#Electronic

Dr. Alan F. Westin

Professor of Public Law and

Government Emeritus, Columbia University

Markle Conference on "Connecting Americans to Their Health Care," Washington, D.C. Dec 7-8, 2006

## 2009 NPR/Kaiser/Harvard Poll The Public and the Health Care Delivery System

59% are NOT confident online medical records will remain confidential

76% believe unauthorized persons will access their online medical records

http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/upload/7888.pdf

## The right of privacy is a personal and fundamental right in the United States

See Department of Justice v. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, 489 U.S. 749, 763 (1989) ("both the common law and the literal understandings of privacy encompass the individual's control of information concerning his or her person"); Whalen v. Roe, 429 U.S. 589, 605 (1977); United States v. Katz, 389 U.S. 347 (1967); Olmstead v. United States, 277 U.S. 438, 478 (1928) (Brandeis, J., dissenting).

The opportunities to secure employment, insurance, and credit, to obtain medical services and the rights of due process may be jeopardized by the misuse of personal information.

Fed. Trade Comm'n, Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book 11 (2009) (charts describing how identity theft victims' information have been misused).

As the Supreme Court has made clear, and the DC Circuit Court of Appeals recently held, "both the common law and the literal understanding of privacy encompass the individual's control of information concerning his or her person."

U.S. Dep't of Justice v. Reporters Comm. for Freedom of the Press, 489 U.S. 749, 763 (1989), cited in Nat'l Cable & Tele. Assn. v. Fed. Commc'ns. Comm'n, No. 07-1312 (D.C. Cir. Feb. 13, 2009).

"the constitutionally protected right to privacy of highly personal information is so well established that no reasonable person could be unaware of it."

# ethical and human rights to privacy

legal privileges common law

The Madrid Privacy Declaration of November 2009 affirms that privacy is a basic human right, and notes" corporations are acquiring vast amounts of personal data without independent oversight"

The Madrid Privacy Declaration: Global Privacy Standards for a Global World,

Nov. 3, 2009, see <a href="http://thepublicvoice.org/madrid-declaration/">http://thepublicvoice.org/madrid-declaration/</a>.

#### Professional and research ethics

The ethical codes of all health professions require informed consent before use or disclosures of personal health information.

Report to HHS, NCVHS (June 22, 2006)

"the well- being of the human subject should take precedence over the needs and interests of society"

World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki June 1964 Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects

#### **Privileges and Common Law**

A physician-patient privilege is recognized in the laws of 43 states and the District of Columbia.

The State of Health Privacy, Health Privacy Project (2000)

All 50 states and the District of Columbia recognize in tort law a common law or statutory right to privacy of personal information.

HHS finding 65 Fed. Reg. at 82,464

Ten states have a right to privacy expressly recognized in their state constitutions.

## loss of reputation/ liability: **ASU** TX Dept of Health

#### April 21, 2010

#### Indian Tribe Wins Fight to Limit Research of Its DNA

**By AMY HARMON** 

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/22/us/22dna.html?ref=us



#### THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

#### **DNA Deception**

by Emily Ramshaw February 22, 2010



"nine years' worth of e-mails and internal documents on the <u>Department of State Health Services</u>' newborn blood screening program reveals the transfer of hundreds of infant blood spots to an Armed Forces lab to build a national and, someday, international mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) registry"

# no support for research without consent

## Westin/Harris Survey for the Institute of Medicine

Results of a National Survey
Commissioned by the IOM Committee on
"Health Research and the Privacy of
Health Information: The HIPAA Privacy Rule"

Original Report - November 2007; Revised and expanded - March 2008

### IOM Survey: People Won't Participate in Research Without Privacy

- Only 1% agreed that researchers would be free to use personal medical and health information without consent
- Only 19% agreed that personal medical and health information could be used as long as the study "never revealed my personal identity" and it was supervised by an Institutional Review Board.

http://patientprivacyrights.org/media/WestinIOMSrvyRept.pdf?docID=2501

## research on consent for use of newborn bloodspots

From Public Health Genomics

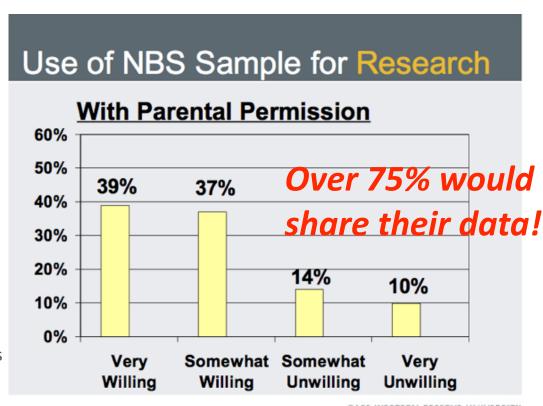
#### When Asked, Consumers Support Use of Their Data

"How willing are you to have your child's blood sample (from newborn screening) used for future research studies, with (or without) your permission?"

#### Four choices were:

- Very willing
- Somewhat willing
- Somewhat unwilling
- Very unwilling

<u>Source</u>: Dr. Aaron Goldenberg (Case Western Reserve), <u>Public Health Genomics</u>, July 9, 2009 (as reported at Genetic Alliance Conference on Newborn Screening, December 2009).



CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

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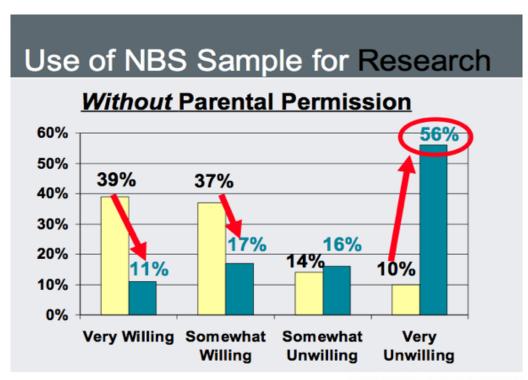
"How willing are you to have your child's blood sample (from newborn screening) used for future research studies, with (or without) your permission?"

WITHOUT CONSENT Only 28% were OK with research and 72% were NOT OK with research

#### Four choices were:

- Very willing
- Somewhat willing
- Somewhat unwilling
- Very unwilling

<u>Source</u>: Dr. Aaron Goldenberg (Case Western Reserve), <u>Public Health Genomics</u>, July 9, 2009 (as reported at Genetic Alliance Conference on Newborn Screening, December 2009).



CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

# Americans expect privacy and control, but....

#### HIPAA regs eliminate consent and privacy

1996

Congress passed HIPAA, <u>but did not</u> pass a federal medical privacy statute, so the Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) was required to develop regulations that specified patients' rights to health privacy.

"... the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to [Congress]...detailed recommendations on standards with respect to the privacy of individually identifiable health information."

**Public Law 104-191** 

2001

President Bush implemented the HIPAA "Privacy Rule" which recognized the "right of consent". HHS wrote these regulations.

65 Fed. Reg. 82,462

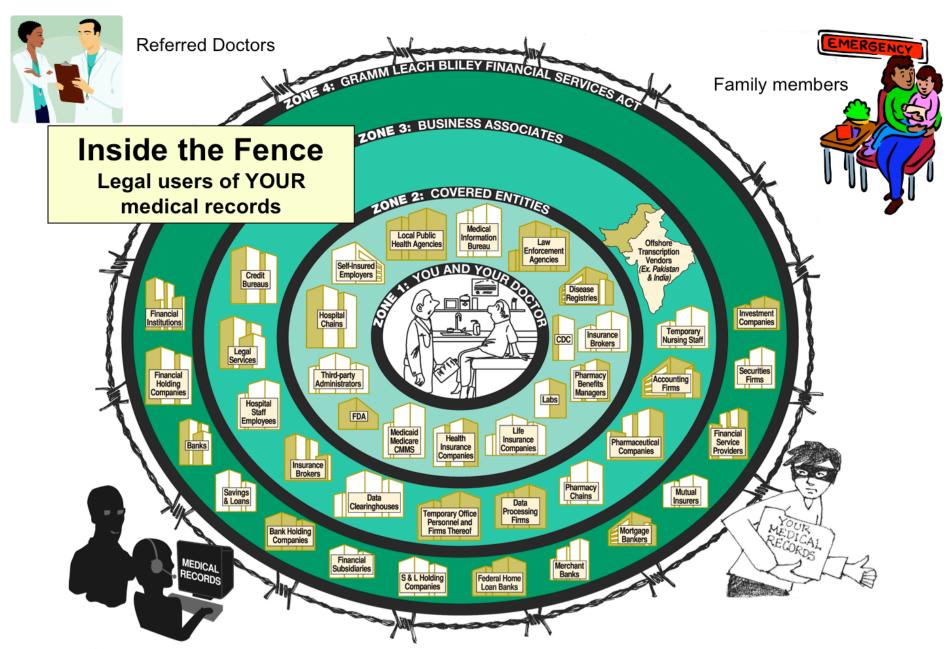
"....a covered health care provider must obtain the individual's consent, in accordance with this section, prior to using or disclosing protected health information to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations."

2002

HHS amended the HIPAA "Privacy Rule", eliminating the right of consent.

67 Fed. Reg. 53,183

"The consent provisions...are replaced with a new provision...that provides regulatory permission for covered entities to use and disclose protected health information for treatment, payment, healthcare operations."



## Americans expect privacy and security,





but....



Where did this slide come from ? The Medical Information Bureau website. The MBI sells claims/health data to insurers and employers.

# 35% of Fortune 500 companies admit to using medical records for hiring and promotions

## huge market for health data +

theft and sale of health data



health data mining industry





# 2010: Top Fortune 500 Companies health data mining industry

- 4 <u>General Electric</u> (GE Centricity EHR/HIT systems, sells clinical data) revenue 157B
- 14 McKesson (sells Rx data) revenue 107B
- 18 CVS Caremark (sells Rx data) revenue 99B
- 21 <u>UnitedHealth Group</u> (*sells RX data* thru Ingenix subsidiary) revenue 87B
- 31 WellPoint (sells claims/clinical data via BHI) revenue 65B

# 2010: Top Fortune 500 Health Care: Pharmacy and Other Services (health data mining industry)

Rank Company/500 rank

Revenues(\$ billions)

1 Medco Health Solutions #35 59.8 (sells Rx data)

2 HCA (largest US hospital chain) #77 30 (?? sells hospital and Rx data)

3 Express Scripts #96 25 (sells Rx data)

4 Quest Diagnostics #303 7 (sells data/sends data to HIEs?)

"transforms millions of test results into valuable information products" <a href="http://www.questdiagnostics.com/brand/careers/index.html#services">http://www.questdiagnostics.com/brand/careers/index.html#services</a>

5 Omnicare #347

6.3 (???)

(leading Rx provider for seniors) "we capture a tremendous amount of data" ...combines data with outcomes algorithm technology

6 Lab Corp. of America #442

4.7 (sells data??/sends data to HIEs)



EHRs, PHRs, claims data, lab data, prescriptions, health searches, etc



## Prime*Research part of an* EHR/ Practice Management Suite

**Key Benefits for Physicians:** 

"Make clinical research participation a revenue source" -

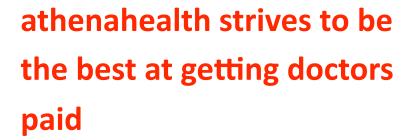
ie, doctors sell access to their patients and patients' records

# **GREENWAY** HELPS PHYSICIANS SELL:

- "de-identified" clinical data
- "de-identified" financial data
- population data
- data on 19 M patients
- 8 million prescriptions/yr
- data on 8,000 providers

http://www.greenwaymedical.com/solutionprime-research/





used by **19,500 physicians**and medical providers
nationwide

http://www.athenahealth.com/strategic-alliances/index.phphttp://www.athenahealth.com/strategic-alliances/index.php





# Athenahealth Paying Dearly to Take on Larger Rivals by Ryan McBride 5/6/10

Athena might be able to halve the amount that physicians pay to use its EHR if they participate in "AthenaCommunity."

Athena's EHR customers who opt to share their patients' data with other providers would pay a discounted rate to use Athena's health record software.

Athena would be able to make money with the patient data by charging, say, a hospital a small fee to access a patient's insurance and medical information from Athena's network.

http://www.xconomy.com/boston/2010/05/06/ athenahealth-paying-dearly to-take-on-largerrivals/3/ CHRIS ANDERSON

#### 104

#### HOW CAN HEALTHCARE SOFTWARE BE FREE?

Since November 2007, thousands of physicians have signed up to receive free electronic health record and practice management software from San Francisco-based start-up Practice Fusion. Enterprise software for medical practices can cost \$50,000. How can one company give away its e-record system at no charge?

#### Sellling data can be more profitable than selling software.

Estimated Traditional

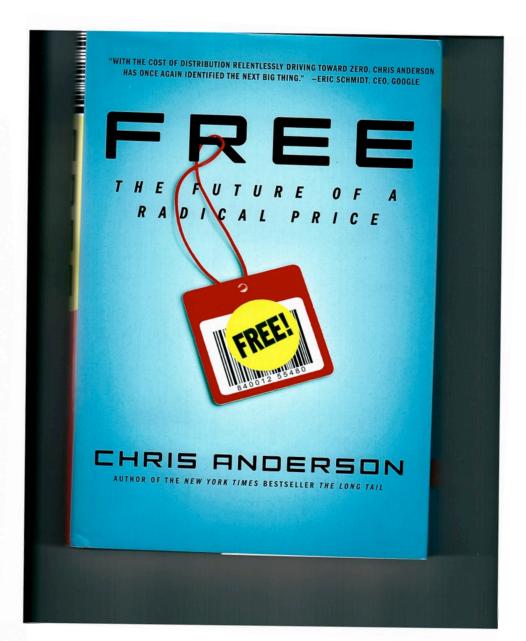
\$100M

Software Revenue

Estimated Research



- ► Freemium + advertising. Tapping the freemium model, Practice Fusion offers two versions of its software: a free one that serves ads (à la Google AdSense), and an ad-free one that costs \$100 per month. Of the first 2,000 doctors to adopt Practice Fusion's e-record system, less than 10 percent opted to pay. But the real revenue lies elsewhere...
- ► Sell access to your data. Using free software, Practice Fusion attracts a critical mass of users (doctors) who, in turn, create a growing database of patients. Medical associations conducting research on specific conditions require longitudinal health records for a large set of patients. Depending on the focus of a study (think: white, middle-aged, obese males suffering from asthma), each patient's anonymized chart could fetch anywhere from \$50 to \$500. A physician typically sees about 250 patients, so Practice Fusion's first 2,000 clients translates to 500,000 records. Each chart can be sold multiple times for any number of studies being conducted by various institutions. If each chart generates \$500 over time, that revenue would be greater than if Practice Fusion sold the same 2,000 practices software for a one-time fee of \$50,000.



## Healthcare IT News

By <u>Diana Manos, Senior Editor</u> 12/31/07

# Practice Fusion expands, shows signs of rapid growth

Practice Fusion subsidizes its free EMRs by selling de-identified data to insurance groups, clinical researchers and pharmaceutical companies.

Howard said he does not expect data-sharing will be a concern to physicians who use Practice Fusion's EMRs. "Every healthcare vendor is selling data."



#### What is BHI® (Blue Health Intelligence)?

shares critical health information with employers
premier health intelligence resource
BHI sets the new standard for healthcare data aggregation, reporting and analysis

#### Size and Value of data for sale

- 1) longitudinal data on 54 million BCBS members [without consent]
- 2) reporting not only by MSA, industry and product type, but by *Diagnosis Related Groups* (*DRGs*) code, *age group* and *gender* [allows re-identification]

## How does BHI ensure the privacy and security of members' healthcare information?

- 1) adheres to HIPAA regs = no consent for use and sale of data
- 2) Use a <u>system-generated identifier</u>, allowing <u>longitudinal analysis</u> [allows re-identification]
- 3) **fully de-identified in accordance with HIPAA** [17 identifiers removed, still allows reidentification of .04%]

http://www.bcbs.com/innovations/bhi/bhi-fags-1-12-09.pdf

# Medicare and Medicaid data for sale "at the patient level"

Uninsured Medicaid 15% 12% Individual 5% Medicare w/o ES 8% Medicare & Employer Supplemental (ES) Employer Source: State Health Facts Online, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, www.statehealthfacts.kff.org; U.S. residents - 285,007,110. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% because of rounding.

Figure 1: Population Distribution by Insurance Status — 2002

To address the need for better data on privately insured Americans, Thomson Medstat created the MarketScan® data collection. Since its creation, MarketScan has been expanded to include data on Medicare and Medicaid populations as well, making it one of the largest collections of claims-based patient data in the nation. MarketScan data reflect the real world of treatment patterns and costs by tracking millions of patients as they travel through the healthcare system, offering detailed information about all aspects of care. Data from individual patients are integrated from all providers of care, maintaining all healthcare utilization and cost record connections at the patient level.

Businessweek July 23, 2008: "They Know What's in Your Medicine Cabinet,

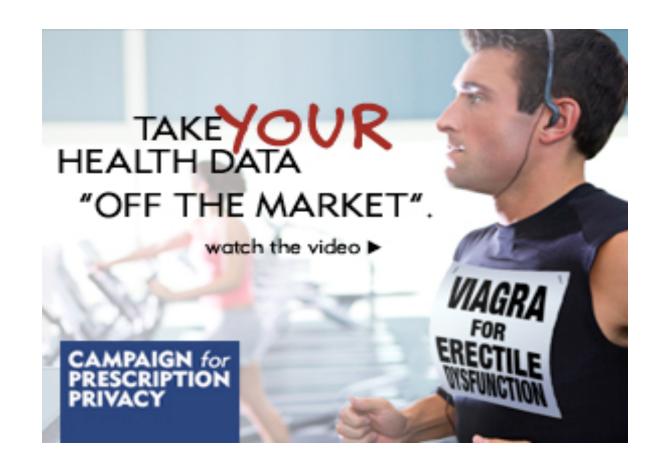
How insurance companies dig up applicants' prescriptions—and use them to deny

coverage" <a href="http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/08\_31/b4094000643943.htm?chan=magazine+channel\_in+depth">http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/08\_31/b4094000643943.htm?chan=magazine+channel\_in+depth</a>

#### DATA ON DEMAND

Two companies dominate the field of selling prescription information to insurance companies:

	MEDPOINT	INTELLISCRIPT
Parent	UnitedHealth Group's Ingenix	Milliman
Location	Eden Prairie, Minn.	Brookfield, Wis.
History	UnitedHealth acquired MedPoint in 2002 from a small, Utah- based health-technology company, Nex2	Milliman, a Seattle consulting firm, acquired IntelRx and its IntelliScript product in 2005
Fine print	Delivers five-year history of drug purchases, dosages, refills, and possible medical conditions	Similarly provides five-year purchase history, which includes information on pharmacies and treating physicians
Pitch to insurers	"Identify high-risk individuals, reduce costs, lower loss ratios, and increase revenue"	"Clients report financial returns of 5:1, 10:1, even 20:1"
Data: MedPoint and IntelliScript		



# **HITECH:** historic new consumer protections, but...

#### ARRA—new privacy rights and MU

#### Old rights under HIPAA:

- Providers may offer consent (Original HIPAA Privacy Rule), so patients can restrict disclosures---not addressed in MU
- Psychotherapy Notes require consent to disclose---not addressed in MU

#### New rights under ARRA:

- Ban on sales of PHI (Protected Health Information)---2010 (waiting for comments on NPR and final rule)
- Segmentation---delayed
- Audit trails x 3 years---2011 or later
- Breach notice---2010 (added "harm" standard violates HITECH!)
- Encryption---2010 but industry is not doing this
- Patient can prevent disclosures of PHI for 'payment and healthcare operations' if pays out-of-pocket---not addressed
- Consent Technologies---2014 or later

# "Meaningful Use" isn't meaningful to patients

# Latanya Sweeney on flaws in MU EHR criteria and NHIN/HIEs

Secondary use of PHI by Business Associates is "unbounded, widespread, hidden, and difficult to trace."

Implementing MU EHRs will "increase data sharing, but adding the NHIN will massively increase data sharing."

The two proposed NHIN models to link all Americans' health information online do not offer "utility or privacy".

## Sweeney on designing privacy in HIT

Observation: "Scott McNealy, the CEO of Sun Microsystems, famously quipped, "Privacy is dead. Get over it."

Sweeney's response: "Oh privacy is definitely not dead. When people say you have to choose, it means they haven't actually thought the problem through or they aren't willing to accept the answer.

... he very much shares that attitude of the computer scientist who built the technology that's invasive; who says, "Well, you want the benefits of my technology, you'll get over privacy".

It's exactly the kind of computer scientist we don't want to be graduating in the future."

http://patientprivacyrights.org/2007/06/privacy-isnt-dead-or-at-least-it-shouldnt-be-a-qa-with-latanya sweeney

#### **MU EHR flaws**

- data mining for many uses without informed consent
- "unbounded uses" by CEs and BAs—no trust without verification

#### NHIN/RHIO/HIE/HIO flaws

- allow broad "stakeholder" (insurers, employers) access to data
- patients don't want "stakeholder" access, they want control
- impossible to share data selectively (segment sensitive records)
- illegal, blanket consents = impossible to share data 1-to-1
- labs and Rx data industry will dump 1,000s of "batched" test reports and prescriptions into HIOs—patients' privacy will be violated even if they opt-out
- without segmentation, HIE/NHIN can't exchange data across state lines with states---all states require consent for sensitive data (segmentation)
- without segmentation can't put teens' data, genetic data, STDs, mental health, addiction data into HIT systems







## Health IT and HIE: 2 separate worlds

# Corporations, Govt, & some Doctors

- Industry-centered system
- LOTS of Data = commodity = \$\$\$\$
- massive data flows and 2<sup>ndary</sup> use of sensitive personal data
- Data theft, no consent
- Robust HIT systems
  - One hospital = 200+ HIT systems
- Robust HIE
- Vendors and users sell data
- Data flows outside US
- Massive security flaws
- "Wild West"-- data mining for profit and discrimination
- Unfair and deceptive trade practices

#### Patients, Family, & some Doctors:

- Not "patient-centered"
- Hardly any data
- Limited control over PHI
- Limited access to PHI
- Limited benefits from HIT
- Limited HIE
- Massive harms/risks from HIT/HIE
- Limited recourse from harms
- Can't restore data privacy = no way to "make whole" or repair exposure
- Generations of discrimination
- Secret health data bases
- No transparency/accountability
- No privacy and weak security
- Patient Safety—EHRs can harm, be source of errors, can't delete/amend

Will we finally get meaningful and comprehensive privacy and security?

# Consumer Choices Technology Hearing

# 7 privacy-enhancing technologies 'live' demonstrations

Washington DC, June 29, 2010

video: <a href="http://nmr.rampard.com/hit/20100629/default.html">http://nmr.rampard.com/hit/20100629/default.html</a>

transcript and written testimony:

http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?

open=512&mode=2&objID=2833&PageID=19477#062910

## federal privacy precedents

• TITLE 38 - PART V , CHAPTER 73 - SUBCHAPTER III - PROTECTION OF PATIENTRIGHTS

§ 7332. (a) (1) Confidentiality of certain medical records: drug abuse, alcoholism or alcohol abuse, HIV, sickle cell anemia

• 42 CFR Part 2 alcohol and substance abuse

## July 8, 2010 New Privacy Policy:

Sec. Sebelius: "Administration-wide commitment to make sure no one has access to your personal information unless you want them to".

Dr. Blumenthal: "we want to make sure it is possible for patients to have maximal control over PHI."

#### See:

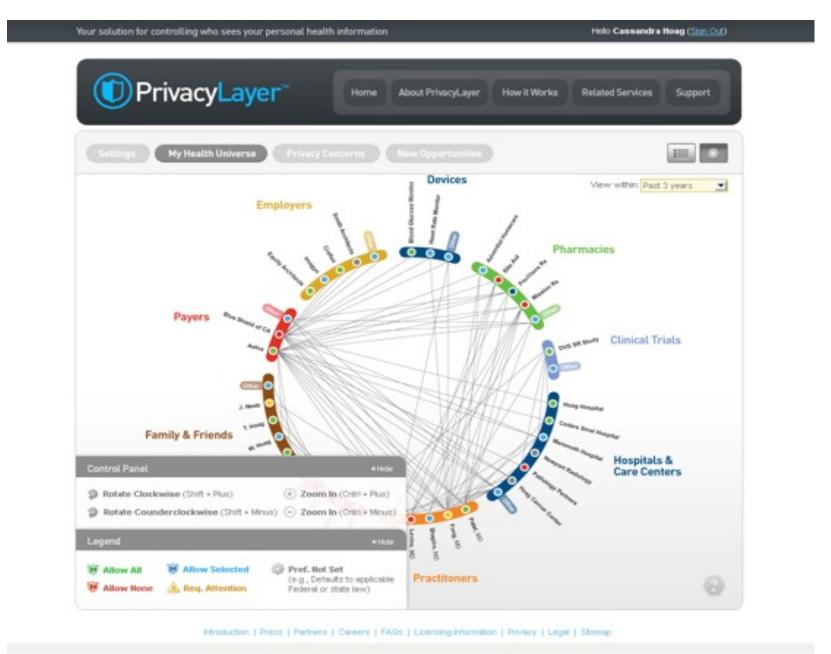
http://patientprivacyrights.org/2010/07/ppr-impressed-with-hhs-privacy-approach/

#### Patient-centered HIT systems

- 1. universal online consent tools--benefits
  - dynamic, not static
  - fine-grained decisions, like online banking "Bill Pay"
     -automatic rules (like monthly payments), or case-by-case
  - ability to share selectively (in accord with laws, rights, expectations)
  - no need to update consents in many locations
  - no need for MPI or single patient ID
  - independent audit trails of all uses and disclosures
     via use of authentication and authorization systems

(employees have unique access codes and can see selected data)

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#### Patient-centered HIT system

#### 2. health banks--benefits

- ironclad security and architecture
- today there is no place w/ a complete and accurate copy of our health records
- patients control access and use of PHI
- only patients can collect complete and <u>accurate</u> PHI
- 'safer' research, less risk of exposing data
  - like census bureau: run research queries on individual data
  - unlike census bureau, no research without consent
  - sensitive data is NOT released
- no need for MPI or UPIN (single ID)---patients have separate ID at each location = better privacy protections (stolen data has less value)

## Patient-centered HIT systems

- 3. other systems--benefits
- decentralized consents with centralized control. In this situation, patients can make local data sharing decisions at the time and place of service, but have a universal portal to update or change consents as needed
- an NHIN that works likes a filing cabinet. In this situation, all patient information goes to a common location, and the patient can make decisions about sharing at that storage location

# Will the VA lead?

#### Deborah C. Peel, MD

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www.patientprivacyrights.org

# patientprivacyrights

#### **Key References:**

EHRs "Your Medical Records Aren't Secure" by Deborah C. Peel in the WSJ, March 23, 2010 http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703580904575132111888664060.html

PHRs "Who can snoop in your PHR? A Personal Health Record Report Card <a href="http://patientprivacyrights.org/personal-health-records/">http://patientprivacyrights.org/personal-health-records/</a>

HIEs and NHIN "Designing a Trustworthy Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN) Promises Americans Privacy and Utility, Rather than Falsely Choosing Between Privacy or Utility" by Latanya Sweeney, PhD, April 22, 2010, Congressional Briefing on the "Implementation of Health Information Technologies in a Healthcare Environment"

http://patientprivacyrights.org/wpcontent/uploads/2101/04/SweeneyCongressTestimony-4-22-10.pdf

See Sweeney's NHIN slides at:

http://patientprivacyrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Sweeney TrustworthyNHINDesigns.pdf

**Research** "Improve Privacy in Research by Eliminating Informed Consent?" IOM Report Misses the Mark. In The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics, Volume 37, Issue 3 (p 507-512) by Mark A. Rothstein. See: <a href="http://patientprivacyrights.org/library/">http://patientprivacyrights.org/library/</a> scroll down to Reports/

#### **Key References:**

Patient-centric health care: "What Patient-Centered Should Mean: Confessions of An Extremist" by Donald M. Berwick, May 19, 2009 See: <a href="http://patientprivacyrights.org/library/">http://patientprivacyrights.org/library/</a> scroll down to More

Coalition for Patient Privacy: Comments of NPRM (changes to HIPAA) See: <a href="http://patientprivacyrights.org/2010/09/coalition-urges-hhs-to-restore-patient-control-over-access-to-health-data-now/">http://patientprivacyrights.org/2010/09/coalition-urges-hhs-to-restore-patient-control-over-access-to-health-data-now/</a>

## Anonymous data isn't

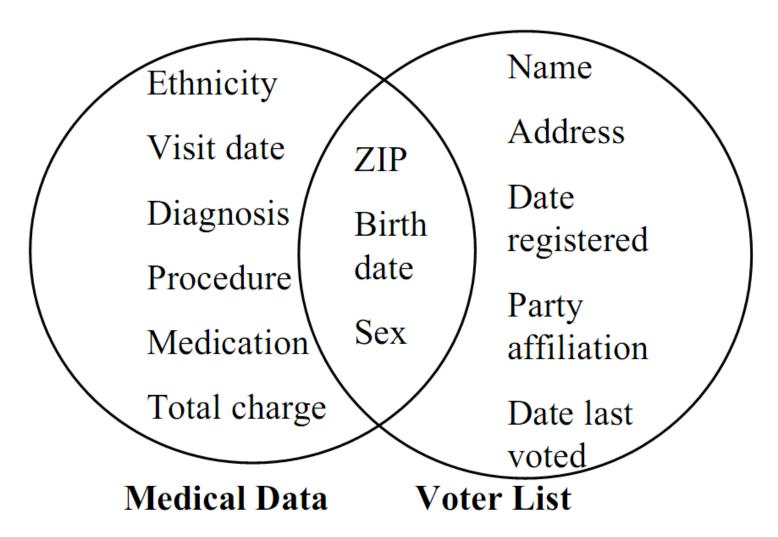
"... a common practice is for organizations to release and receive person specific data with all explicit identifiers, such as name, address and telephone number, removed ....because the resulting data look anonymous.

However,... the remaining data can be used to re-identify individuals by linking or matching the data to other data .."\*

Latanya Sweeney, PhD, Director, Laboratory for International Data Privacy, School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University

<sup>\*</sup>k-anonymity: a model for protecting privacy. *International Journal on Uncertainty, Fuzziness and Knowledge-based Systems,* 10 (5), 2002; 557-570.

## Linking to re-identify data



L. Sweeney. Weaving technology and policy together to maintain confidentiality. *Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics*. 1997, 25:98-110.

## Anonymous data isn't

"We must respond to the surprising failure of anonymization"

"Anonymization, [is] the name for techniques for protecting the privacy of individuals in large databases by deleting information like names and social security numbers"

"Scientists have demonstrated they can often "reidentify" or "deanonymize" individuals hidden in anonymized data with astonishing ease"\*

#### Paul Ohm, Associate Professor, University of Colorado Law School

\* Broken promises of Privacy: Responding to the Surprising Failure of Anonymization, VER. 0.99 SSRN: 8/14/2009:

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1450006&rec=1&srcabs=1446862