Working Session

Information Technology: New Horizons in Health Care

October 12, 2010

Deborah C. Peel, MD patientprivacyrights What does 'privacy' mean?

"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 from the IOM

10.5 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.





privacy = control

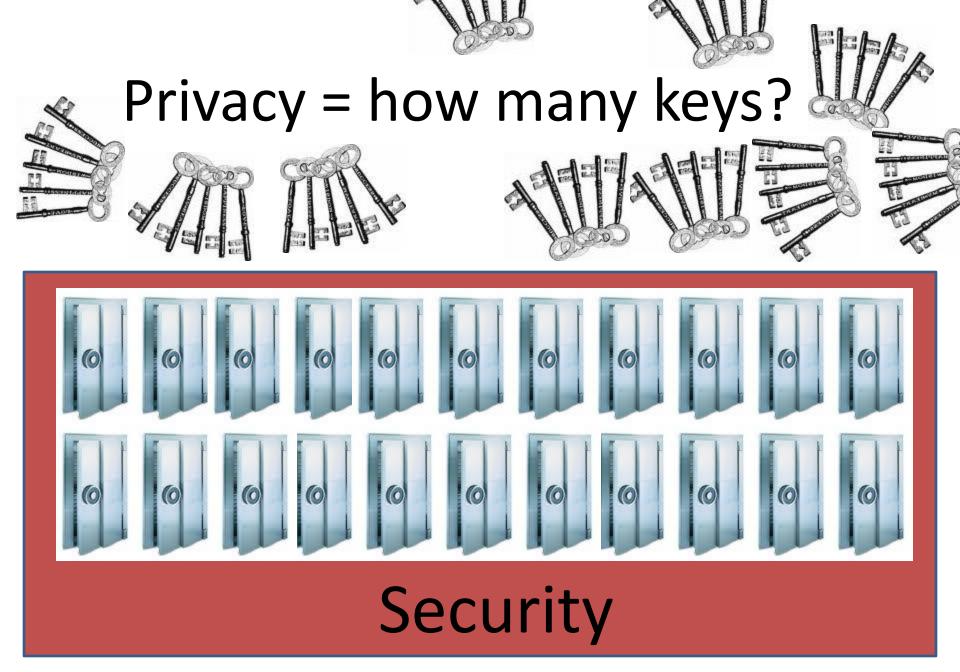




privacy ≠ security







Americans expect privacy and security, but... HHS citations: harms from lack of privacy

Harms from lack of Privacy

- HHS estimated that **586,000** Americans did not seek earlier cancer treatment due to privacy concerns.
- HHS estimated that 2,000,000 Americans did not seek treatment for mental illness due to privacy concerns.
- Millions of young Americans suffering from sexually transmitted diseases do not seek treatment due to privacy concerns.

Harms from lack of Privacy

The California Health Care Foundation found that **1 in 8** Americans have put their health at risk *because of privacy concerns*:

- Avoid seeing their regular doctor
- Ask doctor to alter diagnosis
- Pay for a test out-of-pocket
- Avoid tests

http://patientprivacyrights.org/2005/11/national-consumer-health-privacy-survey-2005/

Westin/Harris 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

Americans expect privacy and control, but...



Where did this slide come from ? The Medical Information Bureau, which sells your health data to insurers and employers.

HIPAA regs eliminate consent and privacy

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. **Public Law 104-191**

President Bush implemented the HIPAA "Privacy Rule" which recognized the "right of consent". HHS wrote these regulations. **65 Fed. Reg. 82,462** "... 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."

"....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."

2001

Austin Bulldog

Hospital Patient Privacy Sacrificed as State Agency Sells or Gives Away Data

Technology Used by For-Profit Companies Strips Away Inadequate Layers of Security

by Suzanne Batchelor

http://www.theaustinbulldog.org/index.php/Main -Articles/Main-Articles/department-of-state-health-services.html

DSHS collects , sells and gives away inpatient hospital data without consent for:

 public-health, medical research, trade groups, lobbyists, businesses, anonymous downloaders

boston.com Electronic health records raise doubt, Google service's inaccuracies may hold wide lesson

By Lisa Wangsness, April 13, 2009

- medical records transferred from Beth Israel
 Deaconess Medical Center to Google Health
- Google said his cancer spread to either his brain or spine
- "The problem is this kind of information should never be used clinically", said deBronkart's primary doctor
- PHRs...are a promising tool ...but inaccuracies could be "a huge problem," said Dr. Paul Tang



http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2009/04/13/electronic_health_records_raise_doubt/

huge markets for health data + ease of theft + purchase of health information \rightarrow massive health data mining industry

Do Not Disclose



Register on the National Do Not Disclose List

Let Congress know that you want a Do Not Disclose list.

Do you want:

- To choose who can see and use your personal information, from prescriptions to DNA?
- To protect your children's health information, so it won't be used against them in the future for jobs or credit?
- To get a clear explanation of how your information will be used before you decide to share it?

Then sign up to support the "Do Not Disclose" campaign!





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patientprivacyrights

Key References:

CONSENT "The Case for Informed Consent" by Deborah C. Peel, MD and Ashley Katz/PPR August 31,2010 at: <u>http://patientprivacyrights.org/2010/08/the-case-for-informed-</u> <u>consent/</u>

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

TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS: At the **Consumer Choices technology Hearing June 29, 2010,** one of the 'granular consent' technologies demonstrated has been exchanging behavioral health records on 4 million patients for over 9 years, in 8 states and 22 jurisdictions. 7 robust open source and proprietary consent and segmentation technologies were showcased "live". See: <u>http://nmr.rampard.com/hit/20100629/default.html</u>

See transcript of the Hearing and written testimony about the 7 privacy-enhancing technologies at: http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&mode=2&objID=2833&PageID=19477#062910

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" <u>http://patientprivacyrights.org/wpcontent/uploads/2101/04/SweeneyCongressTestimony-4-2210.pdf</u> See NHIN slides at:

http://patientprivacyrights.org/wpcontent/uploads/2010/06/SweeneyTrustworthyNHINDesigns.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*.

http://patientprivacyrights.org/wpcontent/uploads/2010/02/Rothstein-ReIOM-Report.pdf

"IOM Project Survey Findings on Health Research and Privacy" October 2, 2007, by Dr. Alan F. Westin at: <u>http://patientprivacyrights.org/media/WestinIOMSrvyRept.pdf?docID=2501</u>

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

P2P leaks "Data Hemorrhages in the Health-Care Sector", in *Financial Cryptography and Data Security, February 22-25, 2009 by M. Eric Johnson* http://patientprivacyrights.org/media/JohnsonHemorrhagesFC09d.pdf

Don Berwick MD, CMS: What 'Patient-Centered' Should Mean: Confessions Of An Extremist, A seasoned clinician and expert fears the loss of his humanity if he should become a patient. in Health Affairs 28, no. 4 (2009): w555–w565 (published online 19 May 2009; 10.1377/hlthaff.28.4.w555)

UK Lack of Privacy "Database State, A Report Commissioned by the Joseph Rowntree Trust LTD." by Ross Anderson, Ian Brown, Terri Dowty, Philip Inglesant, William Health, Angela Sasse <u>http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~rja14/Papers/database-state.pdf</u>

Sweeney on designing privacy in HIT

"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-withlatanya sweeney Latanya Sweeney on flaws in EHRs and data exchanges

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

Implementing meaningful use 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".

http://patientprivacyrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/Sweeney-CongressTestimony-4-22-10.pdf