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HSCA ANNOUNCES HEALTHCARE CYBERSECURITY KEY CONSIDERATIONS TO HELP SUPPLY CHAIN COMBAT EMERGING THREATS AND PROTECT PATIENTS

New Considerations to Help Providers and Suppliers Address Cyber Vulnerabilities While Promoting Innovative Products and Services, and Protecting Patient Health, Safety and Privacy

Washington, DC (April 17, 2018) – The Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA) today announced the release of key cybersecurity considerations for healthcare providers, medical device manufacturers and service providers to help protect patient health, safety and privacy. In conjunction with the release of the key considerations, HSCA also published ‘[Recommendations for Medical Device Cybersecurity Terms and Conditions](#),’ which details potential purchasing contract terms and conditions that could help ensure rapid adoption of rigorous cybersecurity measures.

“Advances in information technology and medical devices, and increasing interoperability of information systems, devices and services are improving patient care. However, medical devices and services are vulnerable to cybersecurity threats that could jeopardize patient health, safety and privacy,” said HSCA President and CEO Todd Ebert, R.Ph. “As the key sourcing and purchasing partner to hospitals, long-term care facilities and other healthcare providers, HSCA member GPOs bring a unique line of sight over the entire healthcare supply chain that allows them to bring innovative products and services to patients, while simultaneously helping providers confront 21st century cyber threats.”

HSCA’s cybersecurity measures include the following categories of considerations:

- **Cybersecurity Training and Software:** Includes designating an organization security officer, maintaining updated anti-virus software, and implementing role-appropriate cyber training and assessments;
- **Equipment Acquisition Standards and Risk Coverage:** Includes ensuring regulatory standards for purchasing medical devices and updating legacy devices, providing insurance policies to cover cybersecurity risks, and validating devices by testing manufacturer claims;
- **Data Encryption:** Includes encrypting personal authentication data as well as any confidential or sensitive information when practical;
- **Information Sharing & Standards Organizations:** Includes participating in Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations (ISAOs), certifying that suppliers of network-accessible medical devices, software and services are compliant with current FDA guidance documents, and ensuring that manufacturers provide a Manufacturer Disclosure Statement for Medical Device Security;

“The variety and scope of potential threats facing the healthcare supply chain are significant. HSCA’s key considerations seek to address a broad range of possible scenarios in terms of the costs, technical complexity, risks and benefits associated with connected devices and services,” said HSCA Committee for Healthcare eStandards (ChES) Executive Director Curt Miller. “HSCA and its Committee for Healthcare eStandards are committed to accelerating the adoption, implementation, and active usage of industrywide data standards for improving efficiencies and safety throughout the healthcare supply chain, and HSCA’s key considerations are part of that continued commitment.” To view the full considerations, click [here](#).

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About the Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA)

The Healthcare Supply Chain Association, formerly the Health Industry Group Purchasing Association, is a broad-based trade association that represents 14 group purchasing organizations, including for-profit and not-for-profit corporations, purchasing groups, associations, multi-hospital systems and healthcare provider alliances. HSCA’s mission is to advocate on behalf of healthcare group purchasing associations, to provide educational opportunities designed to improve efficiencies in the purchase, sale and utilization of all goods and services within the health industry and to promote meaningful dialogue between GPOs. For more information, visit www.supplychainassociation.org. Follow HSCA on Twitter [@HSCA](https://twitter.com/HSCA).