20 July 2018

Dear Licensees and Managers,

[REVISED] CYBERSECURITY ADVISORY
6 ESSENTIAL MEASURES TO BE SAFE ONLINE

OVERVIEW

Singapore Health Services (SingHealth) database containing patient personal particulars and outpatient medication data has been the target of a major cyberattack. Investigations confirmed that this was a deliberate, targeted and well-planned cyberattack. It was not the work of casual hackers or criminal gangs.

2   The Integrated Health Information System (IHiS)[1] has implemented further measures to tighten the security of SingHealth's IT systems. These include temporarily imposing internet surfing separation. We have also placed additional controls on workstations and servers, reset user and systems accounts, and installed additional system monitoring controls. Similar measures are being put in place for IT systems across the public healthcare sector against this threat.

3   All licensees under the Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act (PHMCA) are strongly advised to heighten vigilance, strengthen monitoring controls, and review your cyber security policies to regularly protect your IT systems against the evolving cybersecurity threat.

4   This advisory provides information on how you can protect your IT systems and infrastructure against cyber threats.

6 ESSENTIALS TO DEFEND AGAINST CYBER ATTACKS

5   In order to better assist your business to defend against any cyber-attacks, the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA) has identified 13 integrated cybersecurity measures, of which the top six are termed 'Essentials'.

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[1] Integrated Health Information Systems (IHiS) is the technology agency for the public healthcare sector. It runs the public healthcare institutions' IT systems.

Ministry of Health, Singapore
College of Medicine Building
16 College Road
Singapore 169854
TEL   (65) 6325 9220
FAX   (65) 6224 1677
WEB www.moh.gov.sg

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6   The six 'Essentials' are featured in Be Safe Online, a handbook to help organisations enhance their cyber defence capabilities and digital risk management, so as to better protect against the increasing frequency and sophistication of cyber-attacks.

7   The 6 essential measures are summarised as follows:
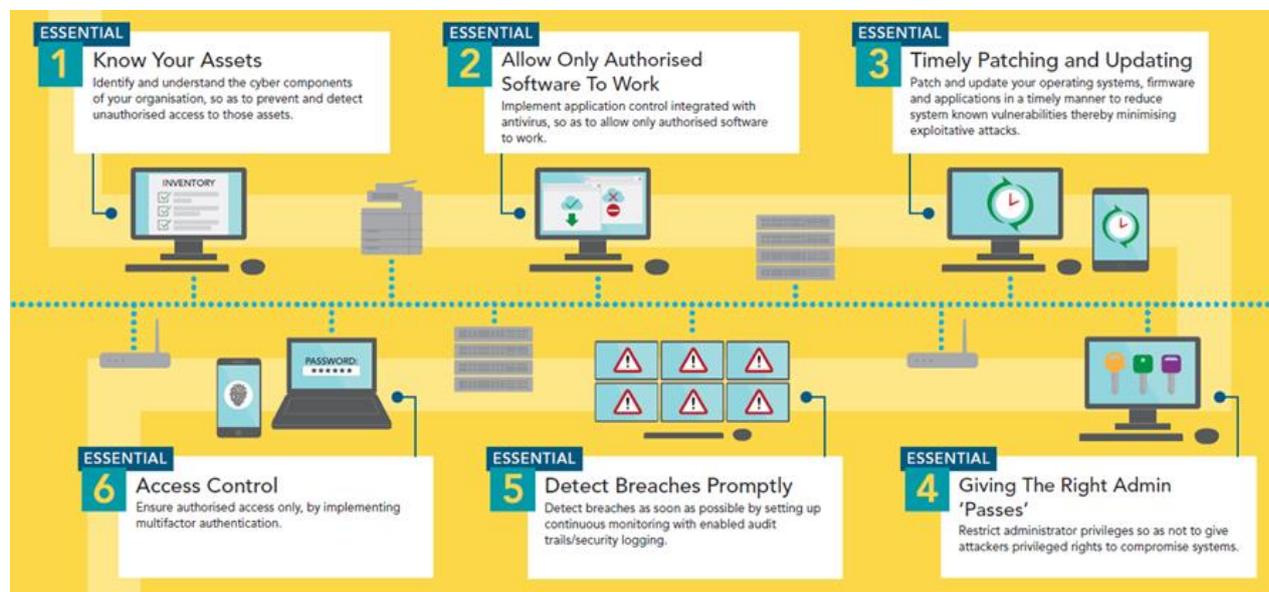
8   For more information on 6 essential measures, please visit the CSA Internet website at https://www.csa.gov.sg/gosafeonline/resources/be-safe-online-handbook. For incident reporting and cyber security-related matters, please email SingCert at singcert@csa.gov.sg or call the SingCert hotline at 6323 5052. For any other clarifications, you may also call the MOH hotline at 6325 9220.

Thank you

ADJ ASSOC PROF (DR) RAYMOND CHUA
GROUP DIRECTOR, HEALTH REGULATION GROUP
DIRECTOR (COVERING), REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
HEALTH REGULATION GROUP
FOR DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES