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Privacy Protection and Data Governance in the Internet of Medical Things

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Presentation Outline

1. Overview of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance
2. Privacy issues of IoMT and sensitive personal data
3. Accountability – ‘Privacy Management Programme’
4. ‘Privacy by Design’ & ‘Privacy Impact Assessment’
5. Tips for senior management
Overview of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance
Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance

• 1st comprehensive data protection law in Asia, enacted in 1995


• Covers the public (incl. the government) and private sectors

• Principle-based; technology neutral
Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance

Data Protection Principles

1. Collection Purpose & Means
   Personal data must be collected in a lawful and fair way, for a purpose directly related to a function/activity of the data user.
   Practicable steps shall be taken to notify the data subjects of the purpose of data collection, and the classes of persons to whom the data may be transferred.
   Data collected should be necessary but not excessive.

2. Accuracy & Retention
   Practicable steps shall be taken to ensure personal data is accurate and not kept longer than is necessary to fulfil the purpose for which it is used.

3. Use
   Personal data is used for the purpose for which the data is collected or for a directly related purpose, unless voluntary and explicit consent is obtained from the data subject.

4. Security
   A data user needs to take practical steps to safeguard personal data from unauthorised or accidental access, processing, erasure, loss or use.

5. Openness
   A data user must take practicable steps to make personal data policies and practices known to the public regarding the types of personal data it holds and how the data is used.

6. Data Access & Correction
   A data subject must be given access to his personal data and to make corrections where the data is inaccurate.
Not only data security

- Data security is only one part of personal data protection

We also need to consider:

- Data minimisation – collect only data that is necessary for the purpose
- Purpose Limitation – use the data only for the original or directly related purpose
- Transparency – to be open and honest to the public (data subjects) about data collection and how it will be handled
Not only technical security measures

- Organisational measures are also critical for data security
- **Case sharing:** REO lost 3.78M electors’ personal data during 2017 CE Election

**Insufficient security measures**

- State-of-the-art encryption adopted
- Passwords shared to staff by unsecure means
- Unnecessary to take out the PD of 3.78M electors
- No clear policy and guidelines for handling of PD

**But**

**Hence**
Privacy Issues of IoMT & Sensitive Personal Data
• Healthcare Internet of Things (IoT) or “Internet of Medical Things” (IoMT):
  *An interconnected infrastructure of medical devices and software applications that can communicate with other healthcare systems.*

• From large-scale healthcare systems and medical software, to consumer wearable devices, e.g. fitness bands/ heartrate monitors/ bloody-sugar monitors
Potential benefits in improved medical care and health services:
– real time monitoring; more accurate data; speedy response.

Need to strike a balance – a risk-based approach with due regard to the sensitivity of the data, and the potential harm if the data is mishandled.
Privacy Concerns & Data Security

- Processing power and sophistication of IoMT devices – collects and processes enormous amount of person data on physiology and medical status, perhaps also the location!

- Nature of the data collected:
  - Sensitive personal data (e.g. ID number; genetic information; medical condition & illnesses)
  - General data which, upon processing or analysis, may reveal or imply sensitive information about that person (e.g. sexuality; psychiatric or psychological conditions)
Privacy Concerns & Data Security

• Data in IoMT are not merely stored in the computer of 1 clinic – ‘interconnectivity’ means the entire dataset is at risk of unauthorised activities.

• A ‘honey pot’ of data – a treasure trove of sensitive data which can be an attractive and easy target
  - Interconnectivity - rather than a closed system - makes it vulnerable
  - Highly profitable to cyber criminals
  - Yet hitherto less well-guarded in its cybersecurity

• Must avoid becoming a lucrative and easy target for cybercriminals
Data security threats in HK

Telstra Cybersecurity Report (2017): HK faces the 2\textsuperscript{nd}-highest risk of cybersecurity attacks in Asia, in spite of a sharp increase in spending on IT Security

HK Computer Emergency Response Team (HKCERT) (2016): Received a 5-fold increase in cybersecurity incident reports in 2016 compared with 2010; cases of ransomware recorded a sharp increase since 2015

PwC survey (2016): Chinese companies had over 900% increase in cybersecurity incidents in 2 years since 2014

KPMG & HKICS survey (2017): cybersecurity now the Top 5 risks
Data breaches in HK

No. of incident reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of individuals affected</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>17,451</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>114,275</td>
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<td>77,409</td>
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Accountability – Privacy Management Programme

From Compliance to Accountability
Accountability - data protection as part of corporate governance

• Privacy Management Programme launched in 2014
• Encourages organisations to embrace personal data privacy protection as part of their corporate governance responsibilities
• Apply as a top-down business imperative throughout the organisation
• Have in place appropriate policies and procedures that promote good practices
Compliance approach

- passive
- reactive
- remedial
- problem-based
- handled by compliance team
- minimum legal requirement
- bottom-up

Accountability approach

- active
- proactive
- preventative
- based on customer expectation
- directed by top-management
- reputation building
- top-down
3 Top-down Management Commitments

1. Top-management commitment and buy-in

2. Setting up of a dedicated data protection office or officer

3. Establishing reporting and oversight mechanism
1. Record and maintain personal data inventory

2. Establish and maintain data protection and privacy policies

3. Develop risk assessment tools (e.g. privacy impact assessment)

4. Develop and maintain training plan for all relevant staff

5. Establish workable breach handling and notification procedures

6. Establish and monitor data processor engagement mechanism

7. Establish communication so that policies and practice are made known to all stakeholders
Develop an oversight review plan to check for compliance and effectiveness of the privacy management programme

Execute the oversight review plan making sure that any recommendations are followed through
Privacy by Design & Privacy Impact Assessment

What is a PIA?
Privacy by Design

• An approach to systems engineering which takes privacy into account from the early stage of the design of a project

• To embed data protection controls as the default across the entire information life cycle

• An approach to data protection which is preventive and proactive - rather than remedial and reactive

• Adopted in 2010 by the global community of Data Protection Authorities – recognising Privacy by Design as an essential component of fundamental privacy protection
Privacy Impact Assessment

• PCPD has published a guidance on PIA

• The PIA includes 4 key components:

  1. Data processing cycle analysis
     - examines the purpose and rationale behind the project, incl. whether it is necessary to collect the kind and amount of personal data contemplated
     - analyse the data processing cycle from collection to transmission, storage, access, use and destruction, preferably with the aid of annotated flow charts
Privacy Impact Assessment

- The PIA includes 4 key components:

2. Privacy risks analysis

- identify key privacy concerns and address them

- security measures should be commensurate with the privacy intrusiveness of the data processing
Privacy Impact Assessment

- The PIA includes 4 key components:

3. Avoiding or mitigating privacy risks
   - risks should be avoided or mitigated to protect data from unauthorised access, use, disclosure or loss
   - for data security: measures may include 2-factor authentication, encryption and back-ups
   - for other privacy risks: measures may include avoid collecting sensitive data, or reducing the data retention period
Privacy Impact Assessment

• The PIA includes 4 key components:

4. PIA reporting

- the assessment findings and measures considered should be documented
Tips for Senior Management on Data Governance

- Secure the buy-in from top-management
- Build a culture within organisation to protect privacy
- Keep abreast of new developments (PCPD’s online resources, Data Protection Officer’s Club)
- Prepare organisation to meet new changes through risk assessments, protocols and policies
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