Cyberattacks are widespread. 83% of physicians report that they have experienced a cyberattack.

Cyberattacks can lead to loss of interrupted system downtime, increased operational expenses and patient safety risks. 74% of physicians report that cyberattacks have had a significant impact on their practices.

Physicians think that sharing information is important. 55% of physicians report that they are sharing patient information electronically.

Physicians only rarely consider security important. 29% of physicians report that they consider security as very important.

New technologies bring new challenges. 53% of physicians report that new technologies require new security training and support.

FIVE KEY FINDINGS

1. Cyberattacks are widespread. 83% of physicians report that they have experienced a cyberattack.
2. Cyberattacks can lead to loss of interrupted system downtime, increased operational expenses and patient safety risks. 74% of physicians report that cyberattacks have had a significant impact on their practices.
3. Physicians think that sharing information is important. 55% of physicians report that they are sharing patient information electronically.
4. Physicians only rarely consider security important. 29% of physicians report that they consider security as very important.
5. New technologies bring new challenges. 53% of physicians report that new technologies require new security training and support.

When asked about the kind of support and tools they need, physicians cited:

- A guide on conducting risk assessment
- An easy digestible summary
- Simplified checklist of HIPAA guidelines

METHODOLOGY

Accenture and the AMA surveyed 1,300 physicians in the United States to assess their experience and attitudes toward cybersecurity, data management and compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) guidelines. The online survey was conducted between July 2017 and August 2017. Physicians were reached through Accenture and the AMA's membership databases. The sample was stratified by practice type, technology, physicians, officials and administrators.