CISO's Challenges & Priorities: Health

Top cyber threats in the health sector
- DDoS Attacks
- Obsolescence, vulnerability Management
- Phishing
- Data Leakage, (Patient) Data Loss
- Malware, Ransomware

Top cyber challenges in the health sector
- Low funding priority - Cybersecurity is a luxury for the health sector
- Lack of qualified staff
- Big dimensions of the organisations and the big geographic distribution of the infrastructure
- Boards do not know the importance of cyber threats.

Focal point 1
Certification
- Certification is not considered a priority or a good representation of the organisation's cybersecurity state.
- Cyber ranges or technical exercises are not widely used in the sector at all.
- CISOs must have the ability to make long-term plans, adapting good practices and methodologies of managing risks and of security of information to the particularities of their organisation.

Focal point 2
Code of Conduct for CISOs
- The priority is to implement a good governance in the sector and therefore ensure that a CISO position exists.
- CISO must align cybersecurity with the objectives and priorities of the organisation, create and design security policies and norms to be followed across the entire organisation.
- Clear and measurable cybersecurity objectives should be assigned to all employees

Focal point 3
Board of Directors
- Boards do not have enough knowledge of cyber threats and consequences.
- Boards prioritise budgets targeting the health of patients and associated needs with no room left to invest in cybersecurity.
- Boards should have mandatory annual cybersecurity and IT-related training
- Create cybersecurity & IT departments under the CISO management.

Focal point 4
Information sharing
- Step by step approach: starting with the need to create healthcare security teams to facilitate information sharing and create a portal or tool where information could be accessible.
- Implement an ISAC with the establishment of a single point of contact and bottom-up information sharing.
- Build trust and ensure information sharing between public and private sectors.

Focal point 5
Procurement
- Performance, cost, maintenance, system integration, and source/provider are the main criteria for procurement
- Importance to rely on validated European solutions and standards related to the communication between healthcare devices and the sharing of medical information.

Further reading from ECSO
ECSO Sector Report
Healthcare sector report: Cybersecurity for the healthcare sector

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