HIT, Workarounds and Security
NIST
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>Co-PI, AHRQ’s Guide to Reducing Unintended Consequences of HIT
>Co-Investigator, NSF Project on Safe Cyber Communication of Medical Devices University of Pennsylvania
>Internal Evaluator, Harvard Medical School, project (SMART) to create a new HIT architecture
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Announcement: Migration of URL

“Guide to Reducing Unintended Consequences of Electronic Health Records”
http://www.healthit.gov/ucguide
What is most common request of Health IT help desks?
What is most common request of Health IT help desks?

What’s my password?

(And I have 6 of them...and they change monthly....and they never make any sense.)
How are password violations etc enforced?
Depends who you know and what you were doing
HIPAA
Password for all smart pumps

"Simulated" to avoid ethical violations and jail
Not True

But
Access Policy Decisions

Policy Making

Workaround Realities

WORKAROUNDS TO BARCODE MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION SYSTEMS: THEIR OCCURRENCES, CAUSES, AND THREATS TO PATIENT SAFETY by Koppel et al
Circumvention & Workarounds Rule (the Rule)
Circumvention (2): Attending’s Daily Reviews of Emergency Department Residents’ Cases

OLD

NEW
Stories to learn?

Medication barcodes: crinkled, smudged, torn, missing, covered by another label

Don’t forget to scan label!
Patient barcodes affixed to:
RN clipboard
Scanner itself
In nurses’ pockets
Belt-rings
Worn as bangles
More places we found extra copies of pt. barcodes (1st workaround, continued)

• Nurses’ desk
• Medication cart
• Supply room
• Med dispensing machine
• Doorjamb
• Baby crib
• Other places...
Code: 43L, 23R, 2L
Key under coffee pot
Solutions

• Workflow  Workflow  Workflow

• Existing Workflow?

• Emerging Workflow
  – With technology
  – With GOOD technology
Thank you.

Questions?

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