Cyber Security Self-Assessment

Find out which areas of cyber security presents the biggest risk to your practice. Ask yourself the following questions and evaluate how you feel about the results.

1. Your ability to trade	What would happen if you are not protected? Denial of service attacks on your systems - resulting in your business being unable to meet commitments to employees, suppliers or pet owners.	1.1 Do you communicate with pet owners electronically?
		1.2 Is delivery of goods / services to your pet owners dependent on digital systems?
		1.3 Do you operate a website that provides you with an income?
		1.4 Do you have a process in place if your website is successfully attacked / corrupted?
		1.5 Do you have a process in place if your website is attacked but the attack is not successful?
		1.6 Is your payroll dependent on a digital system?
		1.7 Is your supplier-invoicing process dependent on digital systems?
	2.1 Do you keep pet owner or employee information electronically?	
2. Your data	What would happen if you are not protected? Loss or theft of patient or employee information.	2.2 Are patient credit card or bank details kept on your system?
		2.4 Do you have an IT policy in place regarding the handling of this type of data?
		2.5 Do you have a Privacy policy in place governing your collection of private data?
		2.6 Do you back your data up regularly?
		2.7 Do you permit your data to leave your system eg do you store it in the cloud?
		2.8 Do you have a contract with the third party that clearly defines what they can and cannot do with your data?
		2.9 Do you have a plan in place in the instance of your thirds party's system going down?
		3.0 Do you currently use Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) on any of your cloud based services?
3. Your money	What would happen if you are not protected? Phishing attacks i.e: you transfer money to a criminal rather than a supplier as a result of a fraudulent email.	3.1 Do you use temps in your finance team?
		3.2 Do you update security software as soon as advised?
		3.3 Are there automated checks and audit trails built into your financial systems?
		3.4 Do new supplier bank details need the approval of your Financial Director?
		3.5 Are monthly checks made on funds leaving the business's account?
4. Your reputation	What would happen if you are not protected?	4.1 Do you regularly check for spoof websites, e.g. Google Alerts?
	Spoof websites or attacks on your	4.2 Would you know what to do if your social media were hacked?
	social media accounts, but more importantly, loss of patient trust if you fail to respond confidently to	4.3 Do you have a contract in place with a PR agency who would support you if you were attacked?
	any of the above.	4.4 Do you have an incident response plan for cyber attacks?

Mostly Yes

To the questions you answered Yes; does that give you confidence or concern?

Did you answer yes more than you anticipated?

If answering yes gave you concern, then you need to speak to an insurance broker as soon as possible.

Some Yes / Some No

Look at each section and see if you have more Yes answers than Nos for that section. Where is the biggest risk to your practice? Where do you need the most protection?

Share this self-assessment with your broker to get a cyber policy that fits your practice.

Mostly No

Answering mostly No means one of two things; your practice is either a low risk or is ill prepared for a cyber attack.

If you fall into the latter, you need to take action now. Now you know where your risks are, you know what action to take.

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