



Illinois Health and Hospital Association

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DailyBriefing@team-ih.org



Thursday, May 18, 2017

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Ransomware Hits Medical Devices

Media outlets are reporting that the WannaCry ransomware attacks has affected medical devices in the U.S. According to reports, nearly 200,000 Window systems have been impacted worldwide, affecting medical technology such as x-rays, CAT scans and MRIs that run the Windows operating system. Information from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on the steps medical device manufacturers and healthcare facilities should take to reduce the risk of cyberattacks is available [here](#). An FDA factsheet on its role in medical device cybersecurity can be found [here](#).

Yesterday, the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services' Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) issued another update on the ransomware attacks on its [website](#).

Reports Examine AHCA Impact, Uninsured Rates

The Kaiser Family Foundation released a [report](#) yesterday that examines the health insurance impact of the proposed American Health Care Act (AHCA) on people with pre-existing conditions. The analysis estimates that 6.3 million people — 23 percent of 27.4 million non-elderly adults with a gap of several months in insurance coverage in 2015 — could potentially face higher premiums under the House version of the AHCA, due to pre-existing health conditions.

The Kaiser analysis also identifies a second group of people who could be at risk of higher premiums: those with pre-existing conditions now buying their own insurance. It finds that an estimated 3.8 million adults, or about 25 percent of all adult enrollees in the 2015 individual insurance market, had a pre-existing condition that could subject them to higher premiums under an AHCA community rating waiver if they don't maintain continuous coverage.

Meanwhile, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

released a report that provides health insurance estimates for 2016. The data, collected from the 2016 National Health Interview Survey, shows that 28.6 million people were uninsured, which is unchanged from 2015. However, when compared to 2010 data, there were 20 million fewer people uninsured in 2016. Related to age groups, in 2016, 12.4 percent of adults 18–64 years were uninsured at the time of interview, with 20 percent having public coverage and 69.2 percent having private health insurance coverage. Among children 0–17 years, 5.1 percent were uninsured, with 43 percent having public coverage and 53.8 percent having private coverage. Read the report [here](#).

IHA's Weekly Regional Roundup

This week, the Hoffman Estates and Oak Lawn boards of trustees voted to opt out of Cook County legislation to increase the minimum wage and require paid sick time for employees. Elsewhere, the McHenry County Mental Health Board funded a program that allows up to five police departments to refer cases that may require behavioral healthcare to a social worker through November. Also, the Will County Health Department announced that its Community Health Center has achieved accreditation from The Joint Commission. [Click here](#) to read more.

Briefly Noted

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released its Health Information for International Travel (commonly called the Yellow Book). It provides the most current health guidelines and information for clinicians advising international travelers, including pre-travel vaccine recommendations, destination-specific health advice, and easy-to-reference maps, tables, and charts. It features the latest information about emerging infectious disease threats such as Zika and Ebola. [Click here](#) for details on how to purchase the book.

Illinois Health and Hospital Association - 1151 E. Warrenville Road - Naperville, IL 60563
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