

the List

Security Whitepaper

Summary

the List (theList.md) is a new way for hospital-based residents to organize their patient information, tasks and “sign out”. It is a major advance over most of the methods residents use today and a useful tool in minimizing medical errors due to poor resident communication, an important problem as work-hour restrictions lead to increasing frequency of patient handoffs.

the List is a web application hosted at a high security data center. All web access is encrypted via SSL. All user interaction is logged, as per HIPAA regulations. Password policies enforce minimum complexity as well as expiration dates. Access to patient data is regulated by residency programs so that account management for new and departing residents can be appropriately managed.

the List does not directly interface with hospital clinical systems. All information is manually entered by residents into the List. Therefore, there is no additional security risk for the hospital. In fact, as many residents use non-secure sites such as Google Docs to share their patient lists, the List is a significant improvement in privacy and security for many hospitals. Below are some key security features of the List:

Data Center

- our servers are located at a high security data center, with on-site security personnel, 7x24 video & biometric security and fire protection
- data center facility personnel undergo background checks
- server data and application functions are duplicated on servers at other geographic sites to guarantee uptime
- our hosting datacenter is SAS 70, Type 2 certified

Authentication

- all browser connections are encrypted via 128bit SSL
- minimum password length is 7 chars, 1 alphanumeric
- passwords expire every 90 days and cannot be reused

Application

- only application users (residents & attendings) have access to patient data, vendor and employees only have application level access to users’ accounts and settings
- data from each residency program are stored in separate databases for further security