**IT Leaders in Healthcare Continue to have Mobile Security Concerns**

A recent research survey shows that despite understanding the importance of mobile technology and mHealth apps, IT decision makers in the healthcare industry still hold concerns regarding the security of mobile solutions.

The survey named as “A Pulse on Mobility in Healthcare” was conducted by Red Hat and research company Vanson Bourne, and released by Jamf. According to it, more than a quarter of health IT leaders do not have full confidence over MDM solutions of their organizations.

About 550 healthcare IT leaders were interviewed by researchers in UK, US, France, Australia and Germany. 84 percent of survey respondents said that their organizations are HIPAA compliant but 50 percent of them believed that their organization could not quickly adopt changing regulations. 40 percent of the respondents said that their organizations had implemented mobile devices for the staff to access patient records while away from their workspace.

When it came to mobile devices, 83 percent listed security as their major concern; whereas 77 percent showed concern regarding data privacy. 49 percent stated inappropriate use of mobile devices by employees as their top concern. 83 percent of the respondents agreed that caregiving staff was provided tablets while one-third intended to provide the same over the next two years to patients getting outpatient care. Out of those that already had or intended to have an MDM solution, 80 percent regarded time-savings as its biggest benefit whereas 79 percent thought enhanced employee activity was a top benefit. However, 27 percent respondents were not confident with the MDM option they were currently using. Overall, 98 percent of respondents find it challenging to implement mobile solutions such as security, regulatory and compliance issues, cost, user and patient adoption, etc.

End-to-End HIPAA compliance was a top issue of mHealth app security for 29 percent of the respondents, while approximately one-third of the respondents considered device back-end systems encryption to be a key concern.

The survey also found that healthcare IT managers plan to develop 36 percent more mHealth apps in next year, but only increase the budget by 15.5 percent.