



# OpenMRS

MEDICAL RECORD SYSTEM

# OpenMRS

The Squadratics

Patrick Lindsay, Mittranj Pansuriya, Travis Ingram, Jeson Rijal

# OUTLINE

- Project Description
- Reflections on Assurance Claims
- Gaps in Security Requirements and Design
- Findings from Manual Code Review
- Findings from Automated Code Scanning
- Contribution to the original project
- Summary / Conclusions
- Sources and Links

# OpenMRS

- OpenMRS is a software platform and a reference application which enables design of a customized medical records system
- Patient-based medical record system focusing on giving providers a free customizable electronic medical record system (EMR)
- It is based on the principle that information should be stored in a way which makes it easy to summarize and analyze
- Modular architecture
  - Allows developers to extend the OpenMRS core functionality by creating modules that can easily be added or removed to meet the needs of a specific implementation.

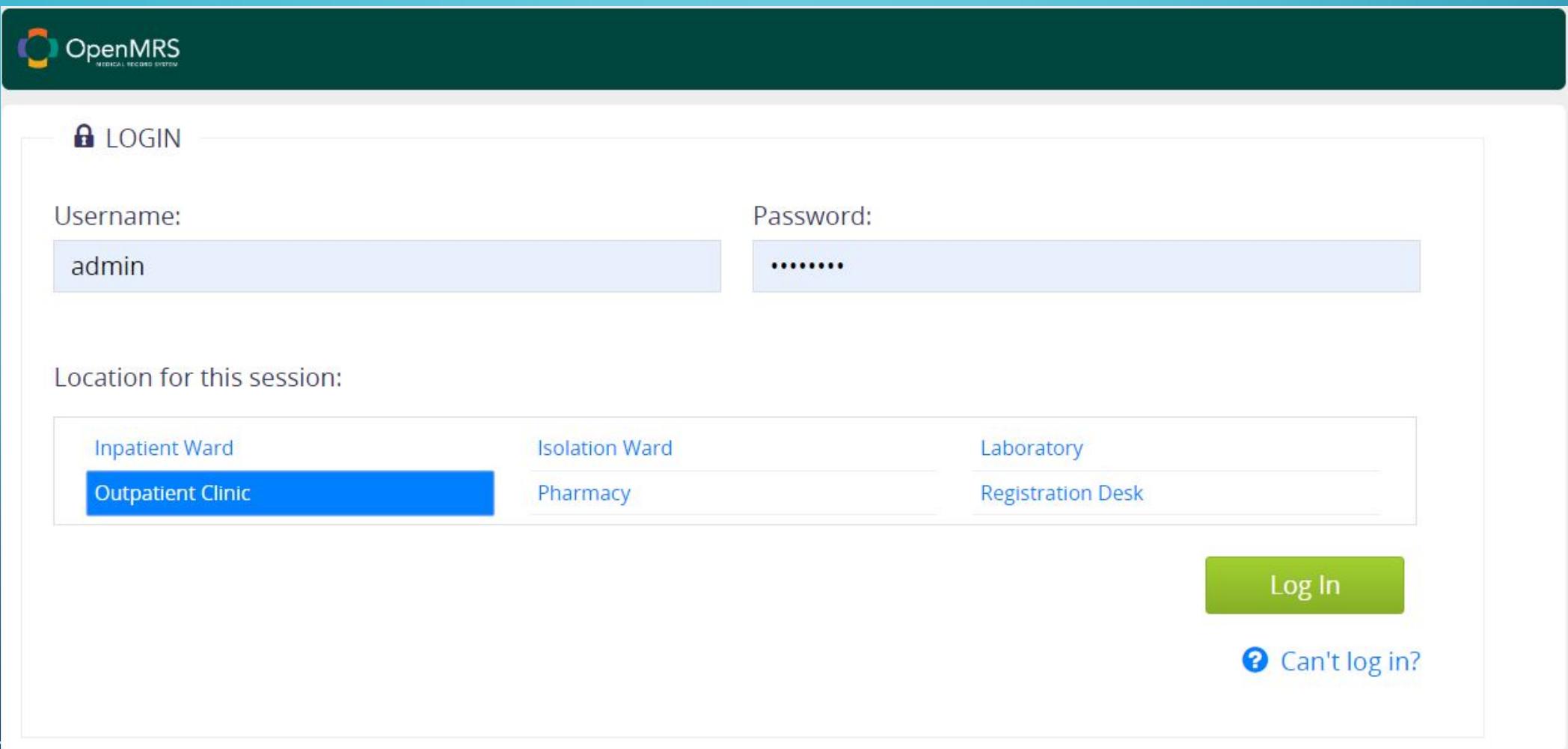
# POPULARITY AND CODEBASE

- Contributors: 324 direct GitHub contributors
- Activity:
  - 140 releases
  - 10,803 commits (with the most recent commit coming less than 3 hours ago)
  - 72 pending pull requests
  - 43 branches
  - 2,413 forks
- Use and Popularity: OpenMRS is used in almost 50 deployments across 6 continents with uses spanning from research and development to evaluation and clinical
- Languages Used:
  - Java – 96.2%
  - SQLPL – 2.9%
  - other languages – <1%

# FEATURES

- Privilege-based access
  - User roles and permission system
- Central concept dictionary
  - Definitions of all data (both questions and answers) are defined in a centralized dictionary, allowing for robust, coded data
- Patient repository
  - Creation and maintenance of patient data, including demographics, clinical observations, encounter data, orders, etc.
- Localization / internationalization
  - Multiple language support and the possibility to extend to other languages with full UTF-8 support
- Support for complex data
  - Radiology images, sound files, etc. can be stored as “complex” observations

# DEMO (OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT)



The image shows the OpenMRS Medical Record System login interface. The header bar is dark blue with the OpenMRS logo and "MEDICAL RECORD SYSTEM" text. Below it is a light blue form area.

**LOGIN**

Username:

Password:

Location for this session:

Inpatient Ward      Isolation Ward      Laboratory  
Outpatient Clinic      Pharmacy      Registration Desk

**Log In**      [? Can't log in?](#)

Logged in as Super User () at Inpatient Ward.



Find Patient Record



Active Visits



Register a patient



Capture Vitals



Appointment Scheduling



Reports



Data Management



Configure Metadata



System Administration

[Home](#) > Register a patient

## Register a patient

### Demographics

#### Name

Gender

Birthdate

### Contact Info

Address

Phone Number

### Relationships

Relatives

### Confirm

What's the patient's name?

Given (required)

Middle

Family Name (required)

Unidentified Patient

 > Angelo Paterne

Angelo Paterne

Male 30 year(s) (12.Mar.1989) [Edit](#) [Show Contact Info](#) ▾Patient ID **100J6Y**

Given

Family Name

Active Visit - 11.Dec.2019, 19:00:42 [Outpatient](#)  **DIAGNOSES**

None

 **VITALS**

None

 **LATEST OBSERVATIONS** **HEALTH TREND SUMMARY**

None

 **WEIGHT GRAPH**

None

 **APPOINTMENTS** 

None

 **RECENT VISITS**

11.Dec.2019

 **FAMILY**

None

 **CONDITIONS**  **ATTACHMENTS**  **ALLERGIES** 

Unknown

**Current Visit Actions**

-  End Visit
-  Visit Note
-  Admit to Inpatient
-  Capture Vitals
-  Attachments

**General Actions**

-  Add Past Visit
-  Merge Visits
-  Chart Search
-  Schedule Appointment
-  Request Appointment
-  Mark Patient Deceased
-  Delete Patient

# REFLECTION ON ASSURANCE CLAIM

- Assurance Claim 1: OpenMRS is resilient to XSS attacks
- Assurance Claim 2: OpenMRS is adequately secure against network eavesdropping
- Assurance Claim 3: The file upload functionality is resilient to arbitrary code execution (further discussion below)
- Assurance Claim 4: OpenMRS is acceptably secure against Authentication Abuse (further discussion below)
- Assurance Claim 5: OpenMRS is acceptably secure against unauthorized access/login to the software (further discussion below)

# REFLECTION ON ASSURANCE CLAIM

- Assurance Claim 1: Cross-site Scripting
  - Misuse - Compromise through malicious file injection
  - Prevention
    - No client side scripting
    - Strong session implementation
    - Encode HTML contents and attributes
  - We found this acceptable

# REFLECTION ON ASSURANCE CLAIM

- Assurance Claim 2: Network eavesdropping
  - Misuse - Network compromise via unrestricted access
  - Prevention - Access control lists for individual users
  - We found this acceptable

# REFLECTION ON ASSURANCE CLAIM

- Assurance Claim 3: File Upload
  - Misuse - Crafting a malicious file to upload reverse shell, duplicate file extension (file.txt.jpg)
  - Prevention – Whitelisting files based on file extension, limiting the types of file able to be upload to the system.
  - Caveat - Requires proper configuration / administration

# REFLECTION ON ASSURANCE CLAIM

- Assurance Claim 4/5: Authentication
  - Misuse – Make multiple login attempts
  - Prevention – Brute-force attack can be prevented by using strategy like password complexity, password length, two factor authentication, limiting login attempts.
  - Additional features – Two-way encryption, hash matching which is mostly helpful with password validation and checks against both SHA 1 and SHA-512 + 128-character set algorithms.
  - Caveat - Cryptographic algorithm could be improved with GCM

# GAPS IN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS AND DESIGN

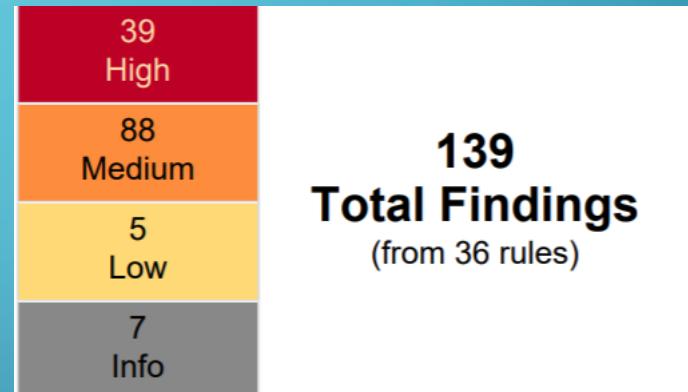
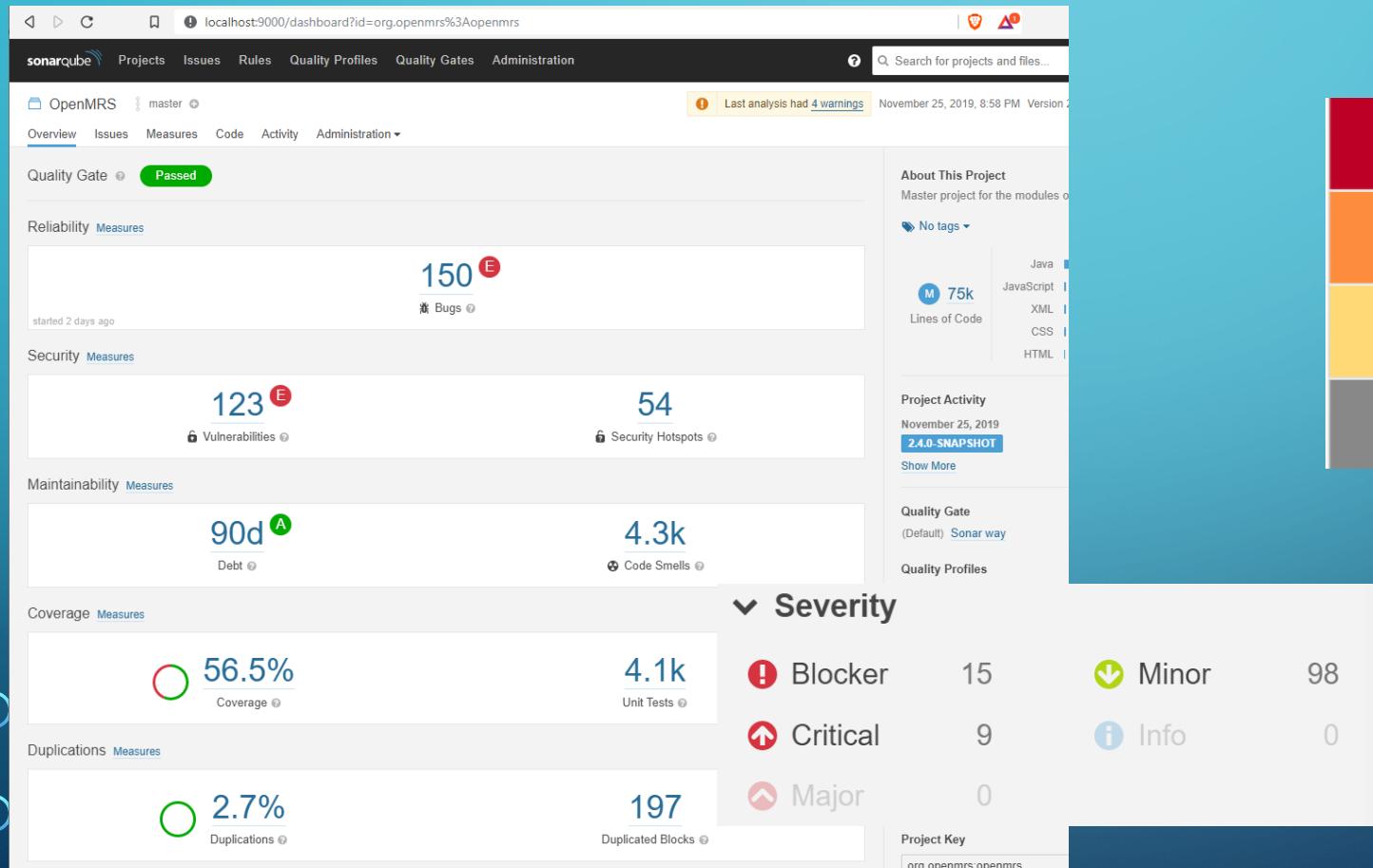
- Gaps Summary

- Doesn't have feature of limiting login attempts
- Logged in user's connection never expires
- Doesn't have feature of whitelisting files based on file extension
- Doesn't have any protection within the core system that protects against a malicious attack via file upload
- Doesn't verify if the file is legitimate/ resulting data is valid
- Every users have ability to use/ access all the features of the system

# CODE ANALYSIS FINDINGS

SonarCloud

SWAMP



# CODE REVIEW FINDINGS

## SonarCloud

### Blockers:

(Not an Issue)

- 'PASSWORD' detected in this expression, review this potentially hard-coded credential.  
🔒 Vulnerability ⚡ Blocker ⚡ Open ⚡ Not assigned ⚡ 30min effort ⚡ Comment

CWE – 259, CWE-798

Refactor this code to not construct the path from tainted, user-controlled data. [Why](#) 11 years ago ▾  
this issue?  
🔒 Vulnerability ⚡ Blocker ⚡ Open ⚡ Not assigned ⚡ 30min effort ⚡ Comment

🔗 cwe, owasp-a5, sa

CWE's: 22, 23, 36, 99, 641

### Critical:

- Use Galois/Counter Mode (GCM/NoPadding) instead. [Why](#) [this issue?](#)  
🔒 Vulnerability ⚡ Critical ⚡ Open ⚡ Not assigned ⚡ 2min effort ⚡ Comment

CWE-327: Use of a Broken or Risky  
Cryptographic Algorithm

## SWAMP

Finding Type	Count
PMD / Best Practices / GuardLogStatement ( <a href="#">page 4</a> )	33
PMD / Performance / AvoidFileStream ( <a href="#">page 15</a> )	4
PMD / Error Prone / SingletonClassReturningNewInstance ( <a href="#">page 16</a> )	2
PMD / Code Style / OnlyOneReturn ( <a href="#">page 18</a> )	13
Error Handling ( <a href="#">page 22</a> )	8
PMD / Design / AvoidCatchingGenericException ( <a href="#">page 25</a> )	8
PMD / Code Style / FieldDeclarationsShouldBeAtStartOfClass ( <a href="#">page 30</a> )	7
PMD / Error Prone / AvoidLiteralsInIfCondition ( <a href="#">page 27</a> )	7
PMD / Performance / AvoidInstantiatingObjectsInLoops ( <a href="#">page 33</a> )	6
PMD / Design / CyclomaticComplexity ( <a href="#">page 35</a> )	5
PMD / Multithreading / UseConcurrentHashMap ( <a href="#">page 36</a> )	5
PMD / Error Prone / BeanMembersShouldSerialize ( <a href="#">page 38</a> )	4
PMD / Code Style / AtLeastOneConstructor ( <a href="#">page 39</a> )	3
PMD / Design / NPathComplexity ( <a href="#">page 40</a> )	3
PMD / Design / ExcessiveMethodLength ( <a href="#">page 42</a> )	2
PMD / Performance / RedundantFieldInitializer ( <a href="#">page 41</a> )	2
PMD / Performance / UseIndexOfChar ( <a href="#">page 40</a> )	2
PMD / Best Practices / UnusedFormalParameter ( <a href="#">page 47</a> )	1
PMD / Code Style / ConfusingTernary ( <a href="#">page 44</a> )	1
PMD / Design / AvoidRethrowingException ( <a href="#">page 43</a> )	1

# HARD-CODED PASSWORD

'PASSWORD' detected in this expression, review this potentially hard-coded credential.

Vulnerability ! Blocker ○ Open Not assigned 30min effort Comment

```
public static final String GP_PASSWORD_REQUIRES_NON_DIGIT = "security.passwordRequiresNonDigit";
```

```
public static final String GP_PASSWORD_REQUIRES_UPPER_AND_LOWER_CASE = "security.passwordRequiresUpperAndLowerCase";
```

```
public static final String GP_PASSWORD_MINIMUM_LENGTH = "security.passwordMinimumLength";
```

Represented 14 out of 15 Blockers

Maps to the following CWEs

CWE-259: Use of Hard-Coded Password

CWE-798: Use of Hard-Coded Credentials

# DIRECTORY TRAVERSAL IN FILE UPLOAD

Refactor this code to not construct the path from tainted, user-controlled data. [Why](#) 11 years ago ▾  
this issue?

Vulnerability Blocker Open Not assigned 30min effort [Comment](#)

cwe, owasp-a5, sa

CWE-22: Improper Limitation of a Pathname to a Restricted Directory (Path Traversal)

'.../'

CWE-23: Relative Path Traversal

"../bin"

CWE-36: Absolute Path Traversal

CWE-99: Improper Control of Resource Identifiers (Resource Injection)

CWE-641: Improper Restriction of Names for Files and Other Resources

Solution: Sanitize input, whitelist allowed paths.

For Example:

```
// Restrict the username to letters and digits only
if (!user.matches("[a-zA-Z0-9]++")) {
    return false;
```

# CRYPTOGRAPHIC ALGORITHM

Use Galois/Counter Mode (GCM/NoPadding) instead. [Why this issue?](#)  
 Vulnerability  Critical  Open Not assigned 2min effort Comment

- CWE-327: Use of a Broken or Risky Cryptographic Algorithm

From OpenMRS

```
* Encryption properties; both vector and key are required to utilize a two-way encryption
*/
public static final String ENCRYPTION_CIPHER_CONFIGURATION = "AES/CBC/PKCS5Padding";
public static final String ENCRYPTION_KEY_SPEC = "AES";
public static final String ENCRYPTION_VECTOR_RUNTIME_PROPERTY = "encryption.vector";
public static final String ENCRYPTION_VECTOR_DEFAULT = "9wyBUNg1FCRVSUhMfsTa3Q==";
public static final String ENCRYPTION_KEY_RUNTIME_PROPERTY = "encryption.key";
public static final String ENCRYPTION_KEY_DEFAULT = "dTfyELRrAICGDwzjHDjuhw==";
```

From SonarCloud

Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) with PKCS#5 padding (or PKCS#7) is susceptible to padding oracle attacks.

# PROJECT CONTRIBUTION

We haven't made any contributions (yet) to the core project

We were security and vulnerability focused

- Complex part of the codebase

We didn't fully understand how these areas were implemented

- Difficult to comment on / suggest changes

# CONTRIBUTION PROCESS WAS UNCLEAR

Very large project / codebase

- Split between core API, web interface, module library
- The openMRS core alone is 75k lines

There are 227 individual repositories that make up OpenMRS

- Most of which are current and deprecated modules

# CONTRIBUTION PROCESS WAS UNCLEAR

- \* Github (Codebase)
  - \* Confluence (Wiki)
- \* Jira (Issue tracking)
  - \* Slack / IRC



# ISSUES WORTH REPORTING

## Hard coded credentials

- Default Username / Password for Scheduler Module

```
12  public class SchedulerConstants {  
13  
14      // Number of milliseconds per second (used for readability)  
15      public static final int SCHEDULER_MILLIS_PER_SECOND = 1000;  
16  
17      // 0 second delay added before the initial start of a task  
18      public static final long SCHEDULER_DEFAULT_DELAY = 0;  
19  
20      public static String SCHEDULER_DEFAULT_USERNAME = "admin";  
21  
22      public static String SCHEDULER_DEFAULT_PASSWORD = "test";
```

'PASSWORD' detected in this expression, review this potentially hard-coded credential. See Rule

2 months ago ▾ L22 🔍

🔒 Vulnerability ⚠️ Blocker 🔍 Open Not assigned 30min effort

cert, cwe, owasp-a2, sans-top25-porous

23

# ISSUES WORTH REPORTING

## Potential issues with crypto implementation

- Use of Galois Counter Mode
- Ensuring data can be encrypted

```
216     public static String encrypt(String text, byte[] initVector, byte[] secretKey) {  
217         IvParameterSpec initVectorSpec = new IvParameterSpec(initVector);  
218         SecretKeySpec secret = new SecretKeySpec(secretKey, OpenmrsConstants.ENCRYPTION_KEY_SPEC);  
219         byte[] encrypted;  
220         String result;  
221  
222         try {  
223             Cipher cipher = Cipher.getInstance(OpenmrsConstants.ENCRYPTION_CIPHER_CONFIGURATION);  
  
Use Galois/Counter Mode (GCM/NoPadding) instead. See Rule  
2 months ago ▾ L223 🔍  
🔒 Vulnerability ⚠ Critical ○ Open Not assigned 2min effort  
🏷 cert, cwe, owasp-a6, sans-top25-porous  
224             cipher.init(Cipher.ENCRYPT_MODE, secret, initVectorSpec);  
225             encrypted = cipher.doFinal(text.getBytes(StandardCharsets.UTF_8));  
226             result = new String(Base64.getEncoder().encode(encrypted), StandardCharsets.UTF_8);  
227         }  
228         catch (GeneralSecurityException e) {  
229             throw new APIException("could.not.encrypt.text", null, e);  
230         }  
231  
232         return result;  
233     }  
234 }
```

# ISSUES WORTH REPORTING

Closing resources in a `Finally` block to prevent resource leaks

- Use `AutoCloseable` class with "try-with-resources" pattern

The screenshot shows a code editor with a SonarQube inspection overlay. The code is a Java method named `getInt` that takes a `JdbcConnection` and a `String sql` as parameters and returns an `Integer`. It uses a `Statement` and a `ResultSet`.

```
285     private Integer getInt(JdbcConnection connection, String sql) throws CustomChangeException {
286         Statement stmt = null;
287         try {
288             stmt = connection.createStatement();
289             ResultSet rs = stmt.executeQuery(sql);
```

A callout box from SonarQube provides feedback:

Use try-with-resources or close this "ResultSet" in a "finally" clause. See Rule

2 months ago ▾ L289 🔍

Bug ⚠️ Blocker ⚡ Open Not assigned 5min effort cert, cwe, denial-of-service, leak

```
290             Integer result = null;
291
292             if (rs.next()) {
293                 result = rs.getInt(1);
294             } else {
295                 // this is okay, we just return null in this case
296                 log.debug("Query returned no results: " + sql);
297             }
298
299             if (rs.next()) {
300                 log.warn("Query returned multiple results when we expected just one: " + sql);
301             }
302
303         return result;
```

# ISSUES WORTH REPORTING

These issues correspond to the following CWEs

- CWE-798 - Use of Hard-coded Credentials
- CWE-327 - Use of Broken or Risky Cryptographic Algorithm
- CWE-459 - Incomplete Cleanup

# SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

- Most assurance claims were found to be acceptable
- Without proper setup and administration, there are a lot of potential security issues
- Large community willing to help, but hard to know where to connect
- Lots of great documentation, but sometimes difficult to find current best practices
  - Result of this being a ~15 year old project

# SOURCES AND LINKS

- OpenMRS Website: <https://openmrs.org/>
- OpenMRS demo: <https://openmrs.org/demo/>
- OpenMRS Github: <https://github.com/openmrs/openmrs-core>
- OpenMRS Wiki: <https://wiki.openmrs.org/>
- The Squadratics GitHub Repo: [https://github.com/The-Squadratics/openMRS\\_security\\_project](https://github.com/The-Squadratics/openMRS_security_project)



The background features a subtle, abstract pattern of thin blue lines and small white circles, resembling a network or a circuit board, which provides a technical and modern aesthetic.

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

**THANK YOU...!!**