009 - VMDR Prioritization Report

The VMDR Prioritization Report can be used to quickly create patch jobs for high risk vulnerabilities. To begin building a Prioritization Report, from Qualys VMDR, click "PRIORITIZATION" at the top of the page.

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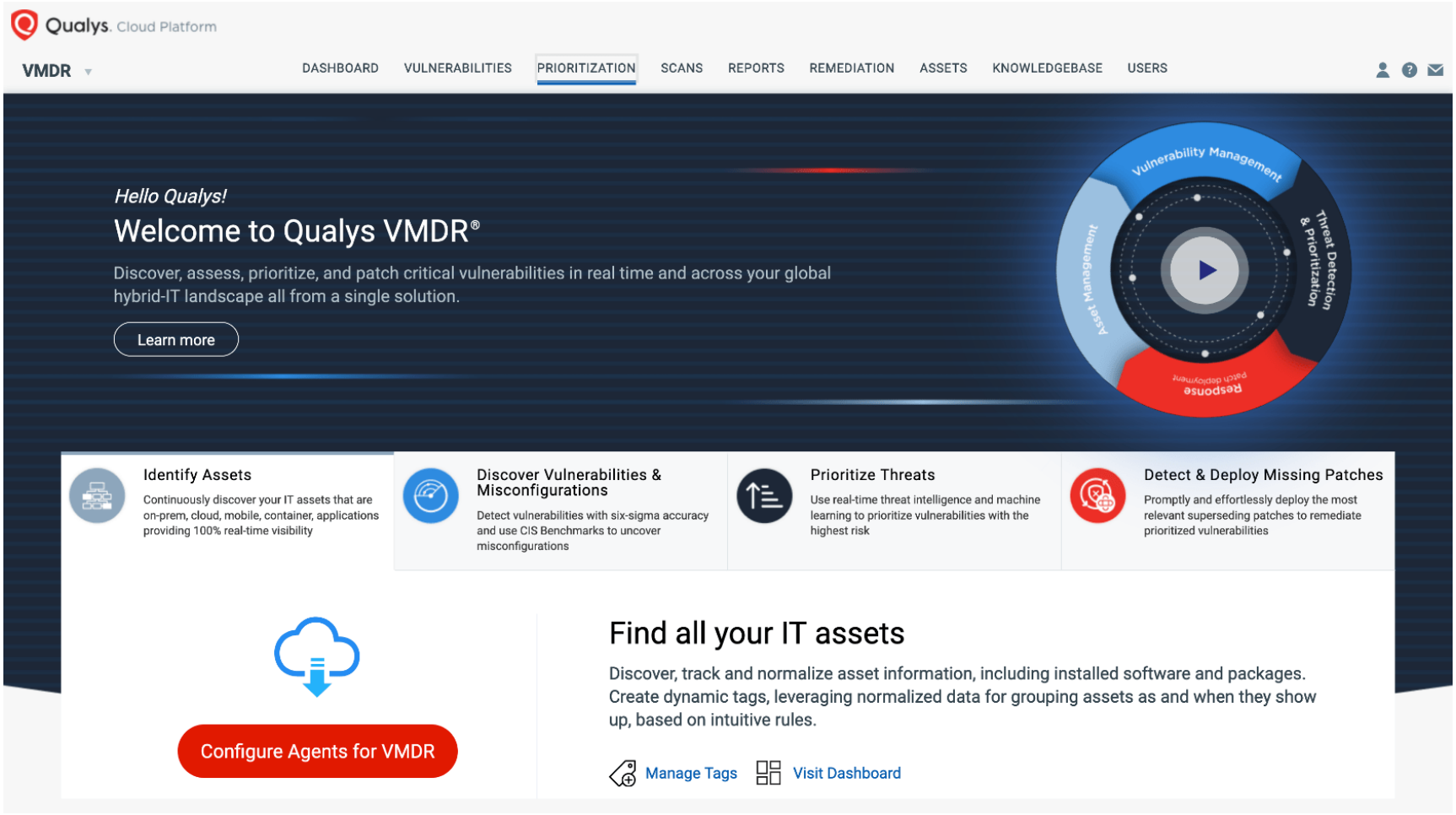

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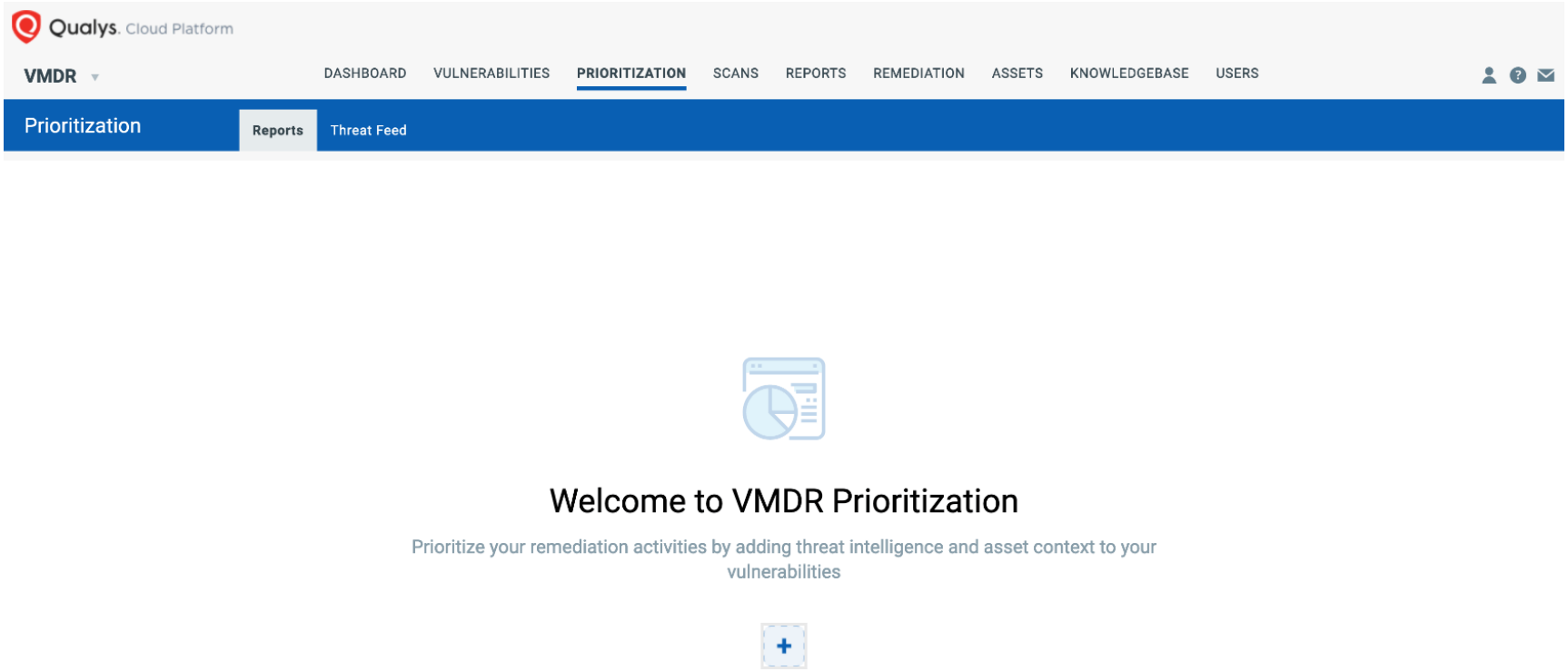
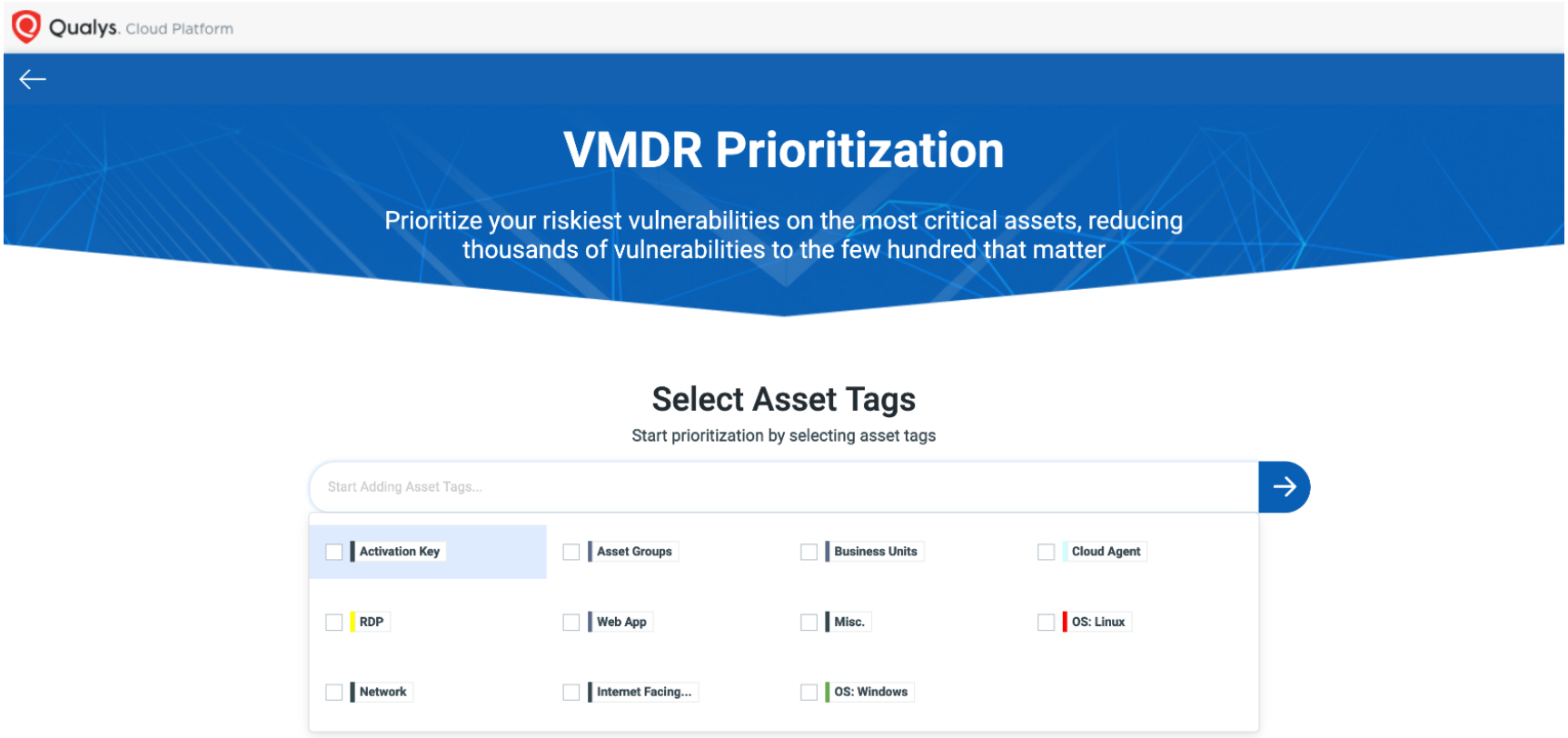
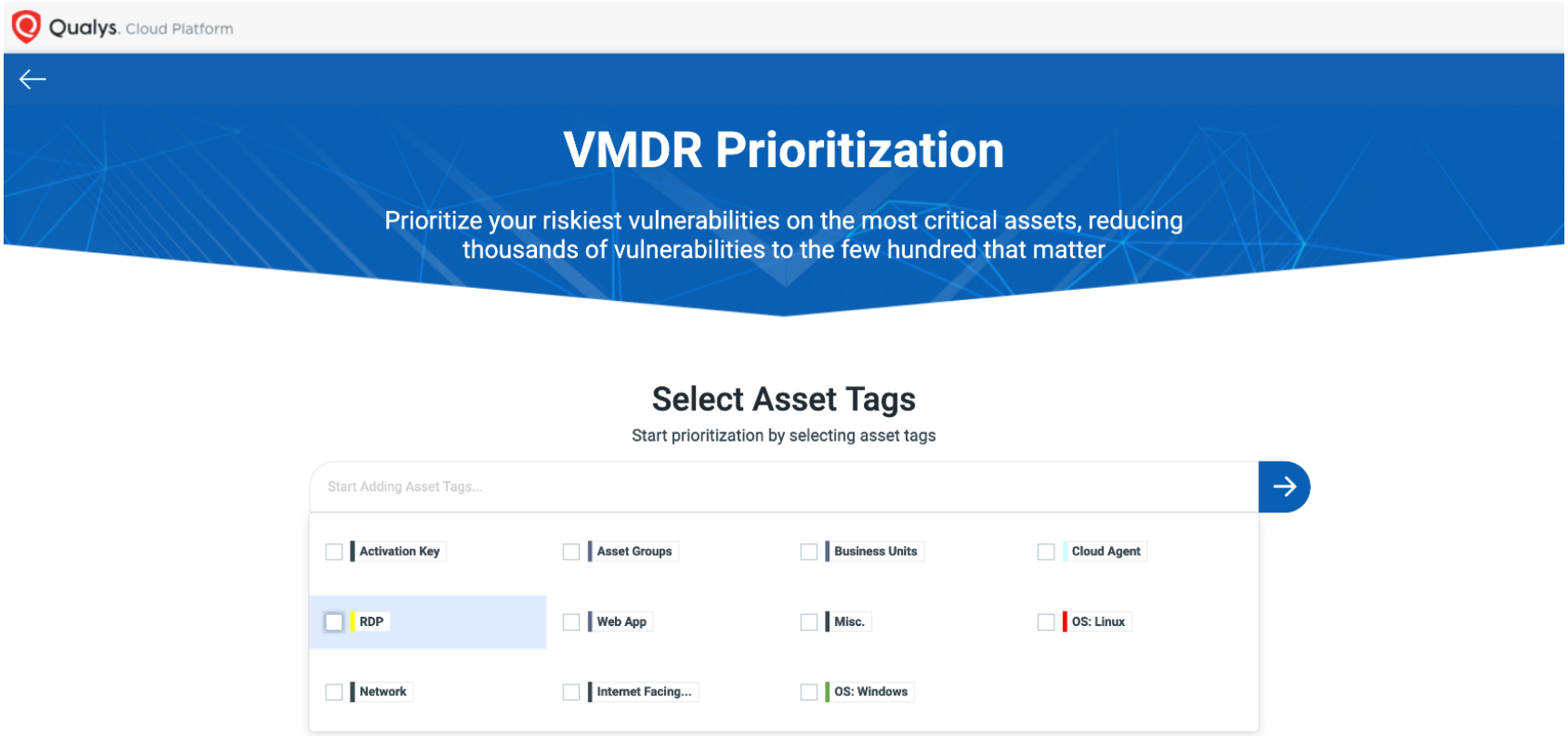
At the bottom of the page, click the button labeled with the "plus-sign" symbol, to begin creating a report.



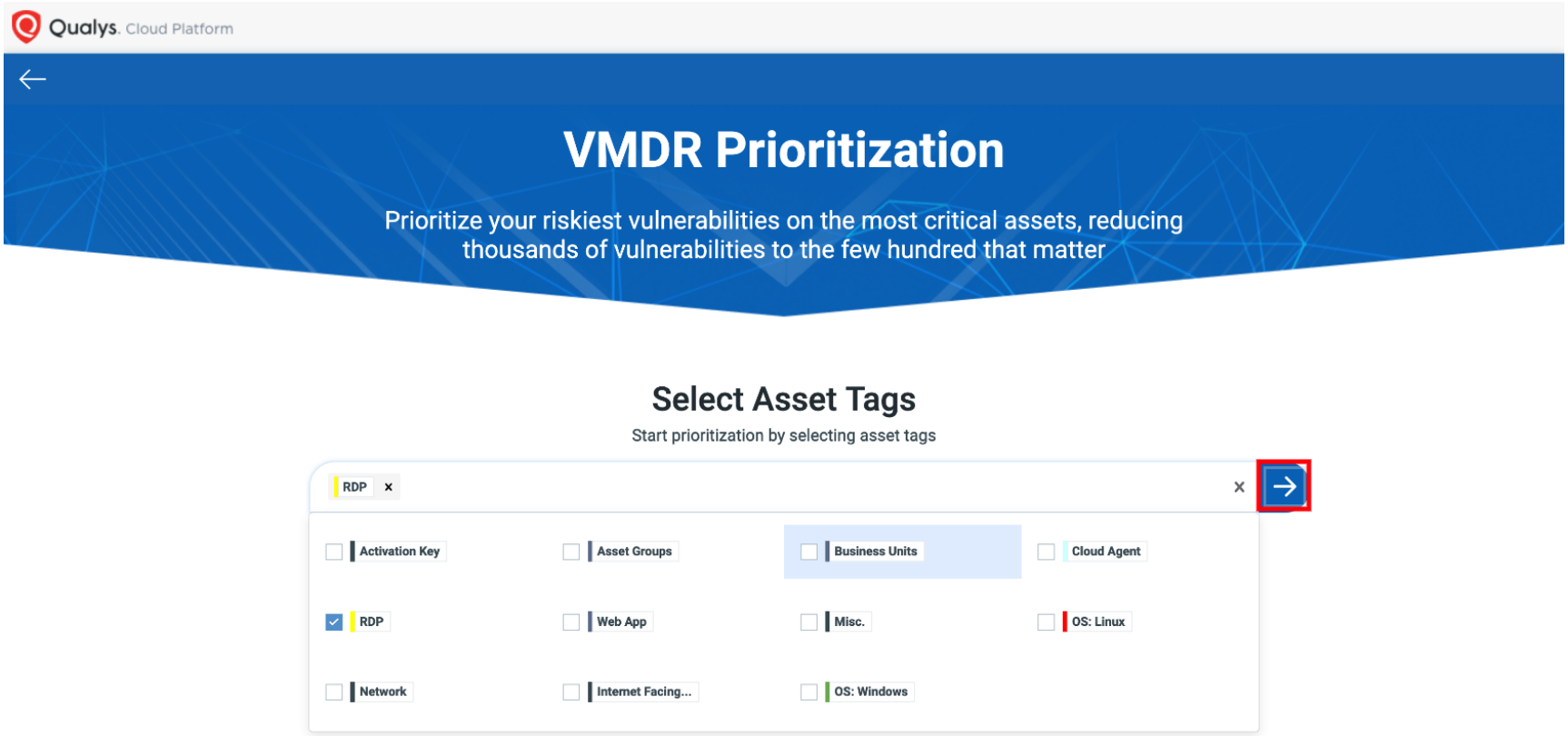
Asset Tags help to add context to the assets, vulnerabilities and patches to be prioritized. For this example, we'll target remote endpoints running the Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP).



Select the check box for the "RDP" Asset Tag...



...and click the "Arrow" to proceed.



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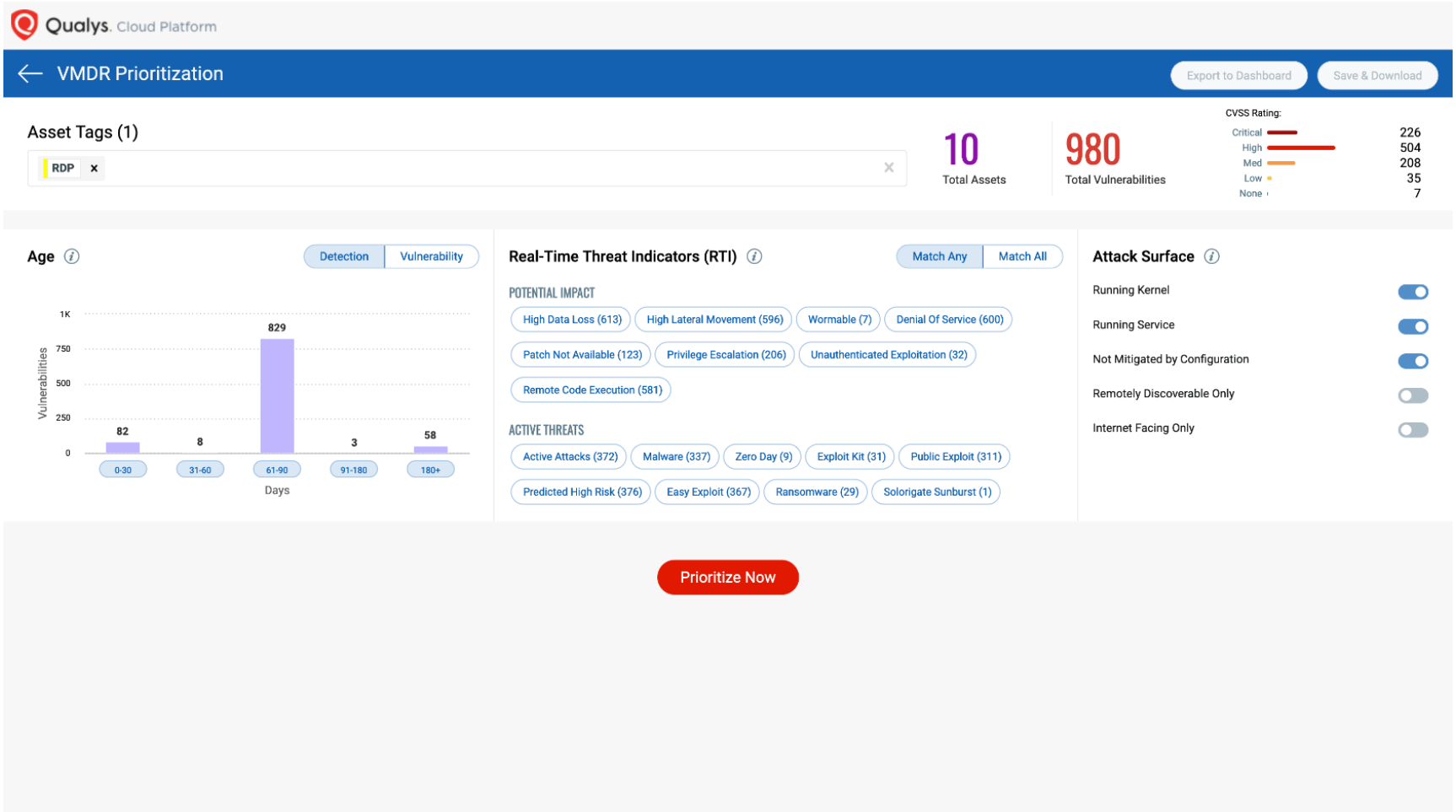
Once you have selected one or more tags for asset context, the Prioritization Report provides priority options based on vulnerability Age, Real-Time Threat Indicators, and Attack Surface.



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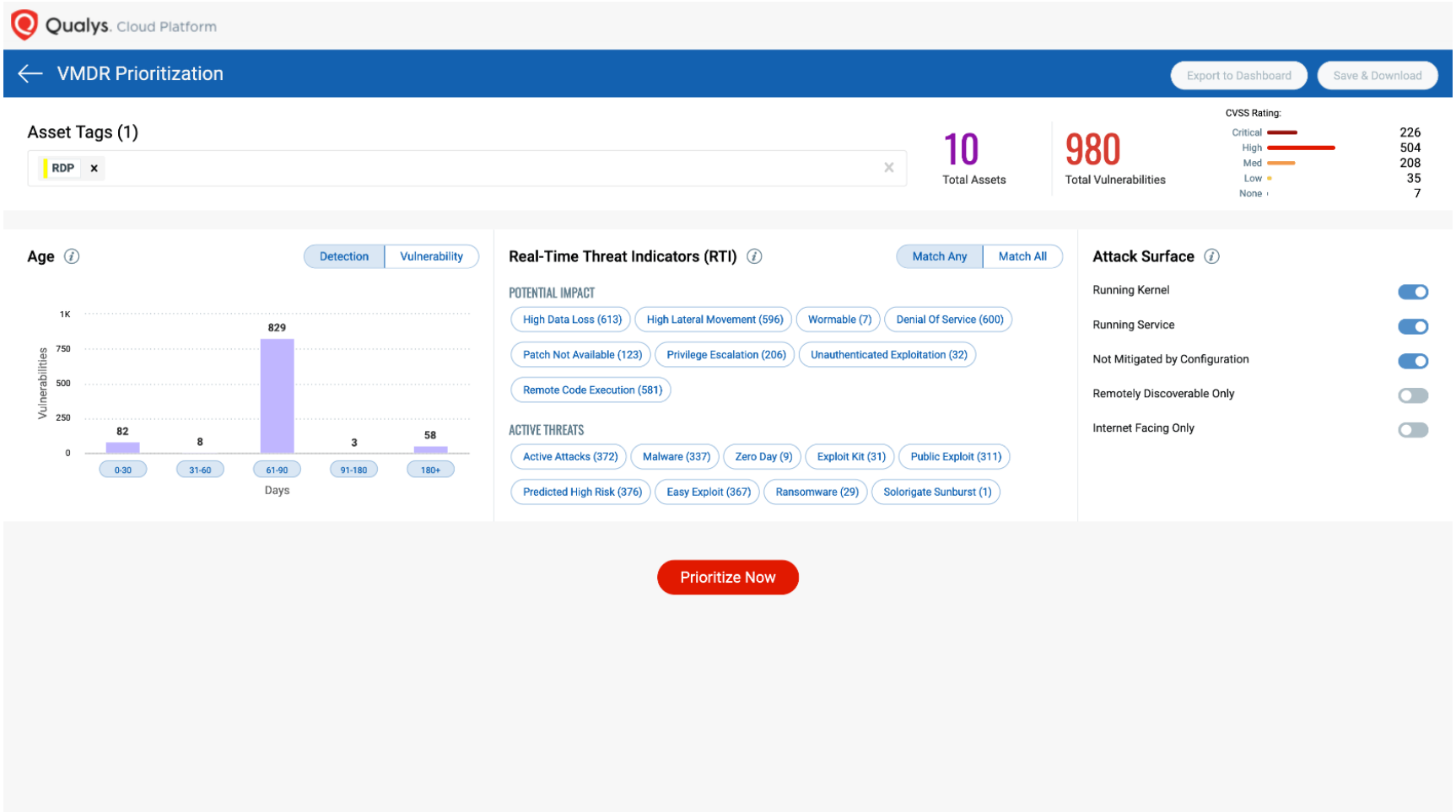
Initially, the vulnerability "Age" graph, on the left, distributes vulnerabilities by their "Detection" age. This is calculated as the number of days since the vulnerability was discovered by your scans.



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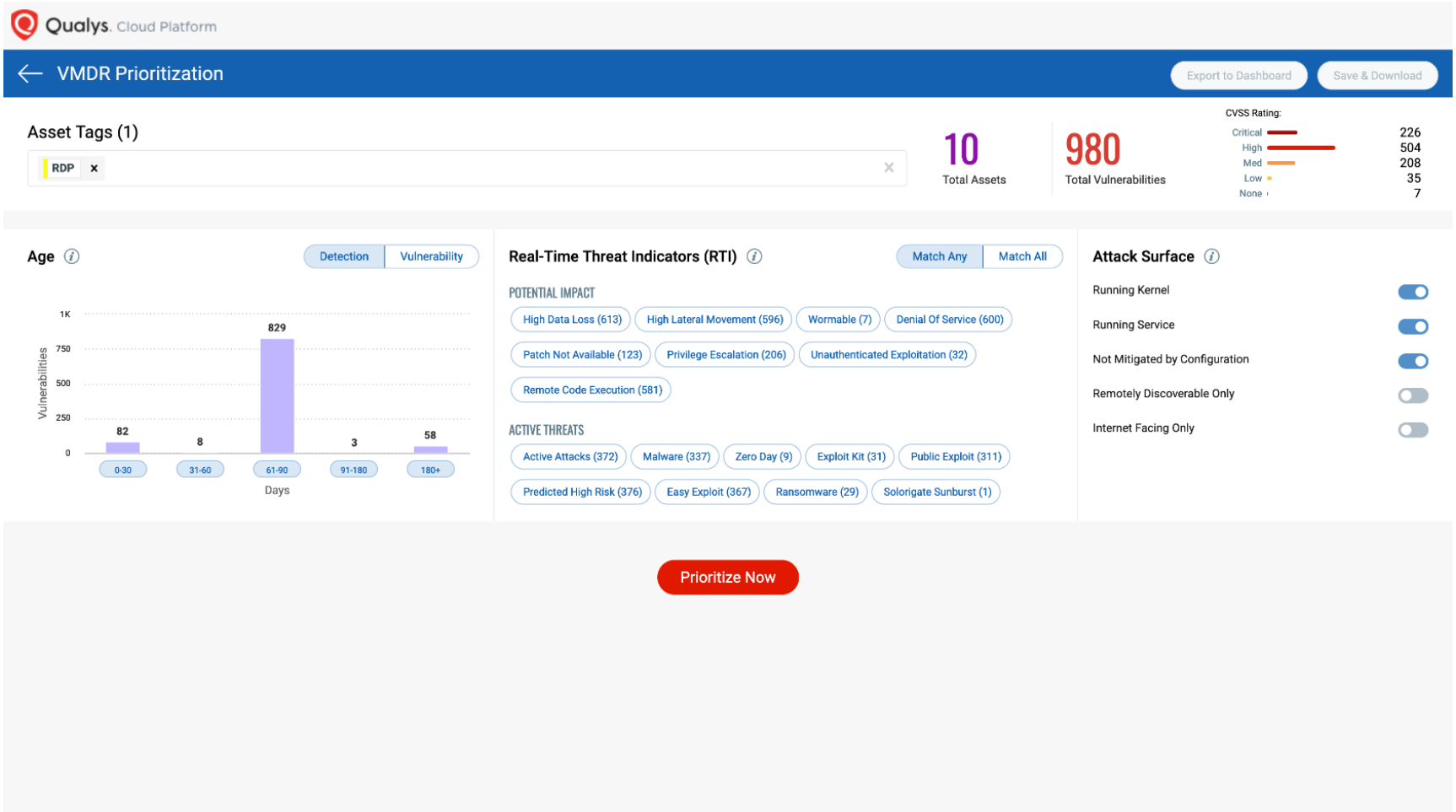
The KnowledgeBase age of a vulnerability, identifies the number of days since it was added to the Qualys KnowledgeBase.



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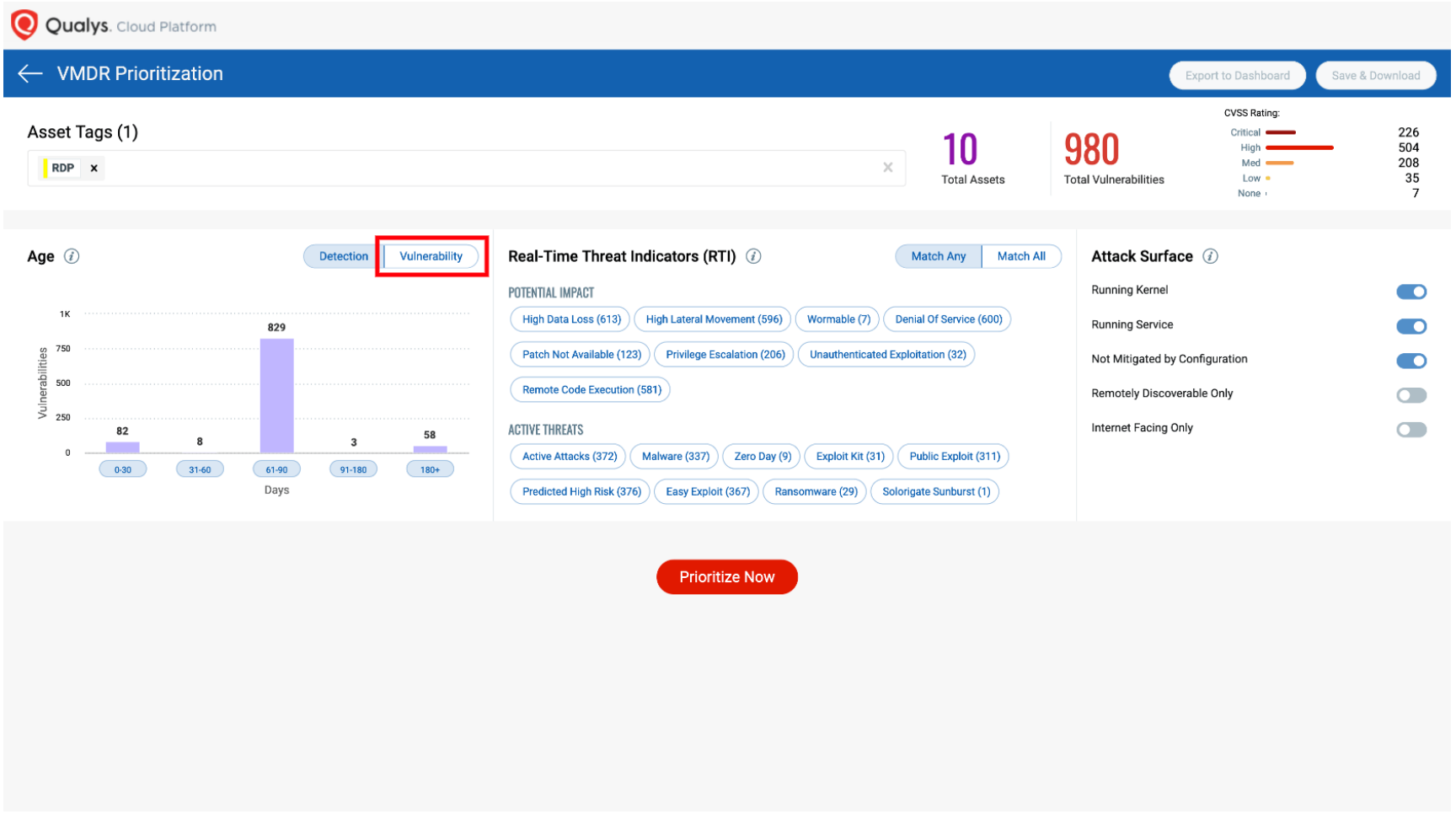
To group vulnerabilities by their KnowledgeBase age, click the "Vulnerability" option.



As you can see, displaying vulnerabilities by their KnowledgeBase age provides a much different perspective. Many vulnerabilities that were only recently detected, have been in the Qualys KnowledgeBase for 180 days or longer.

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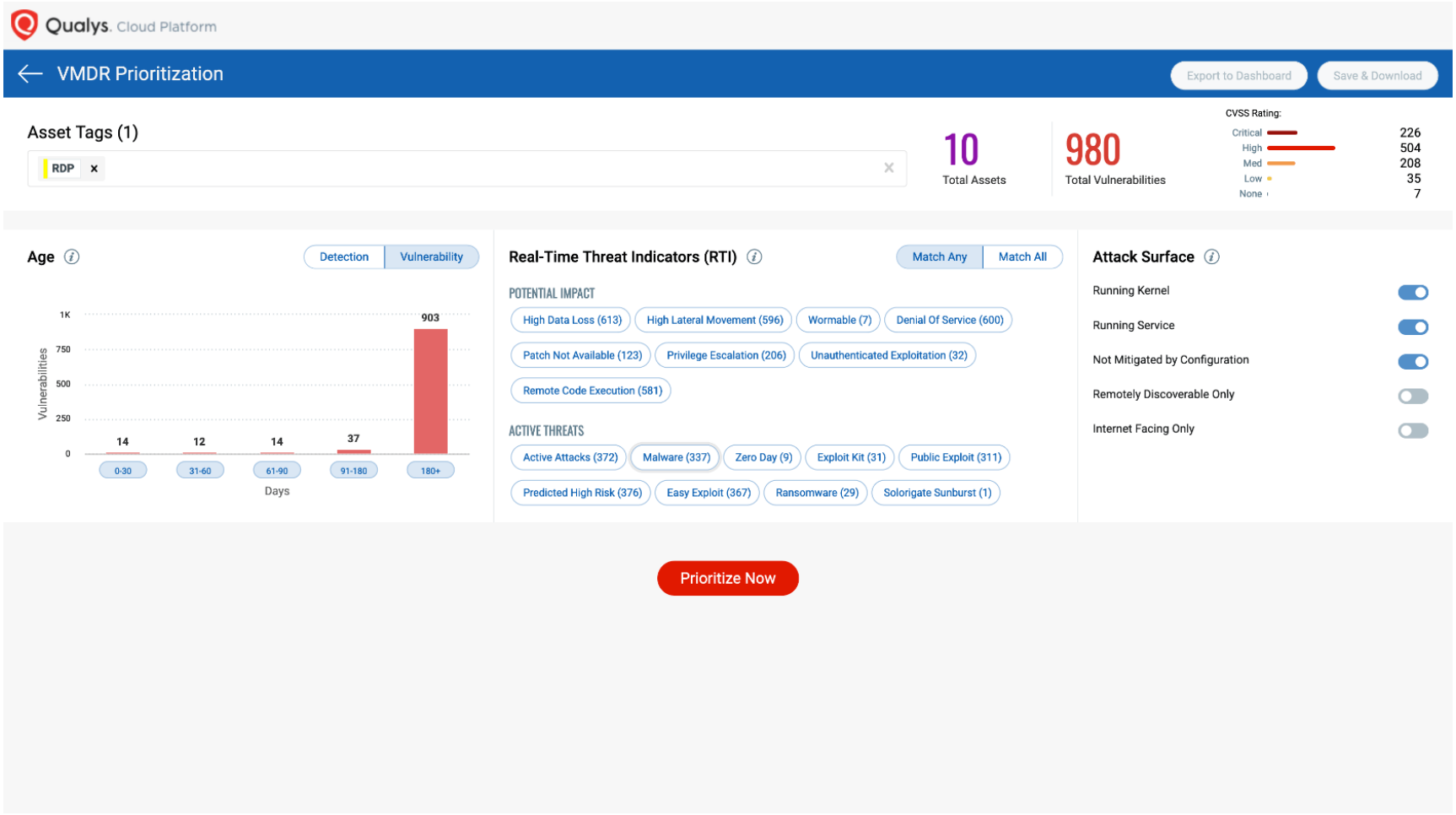

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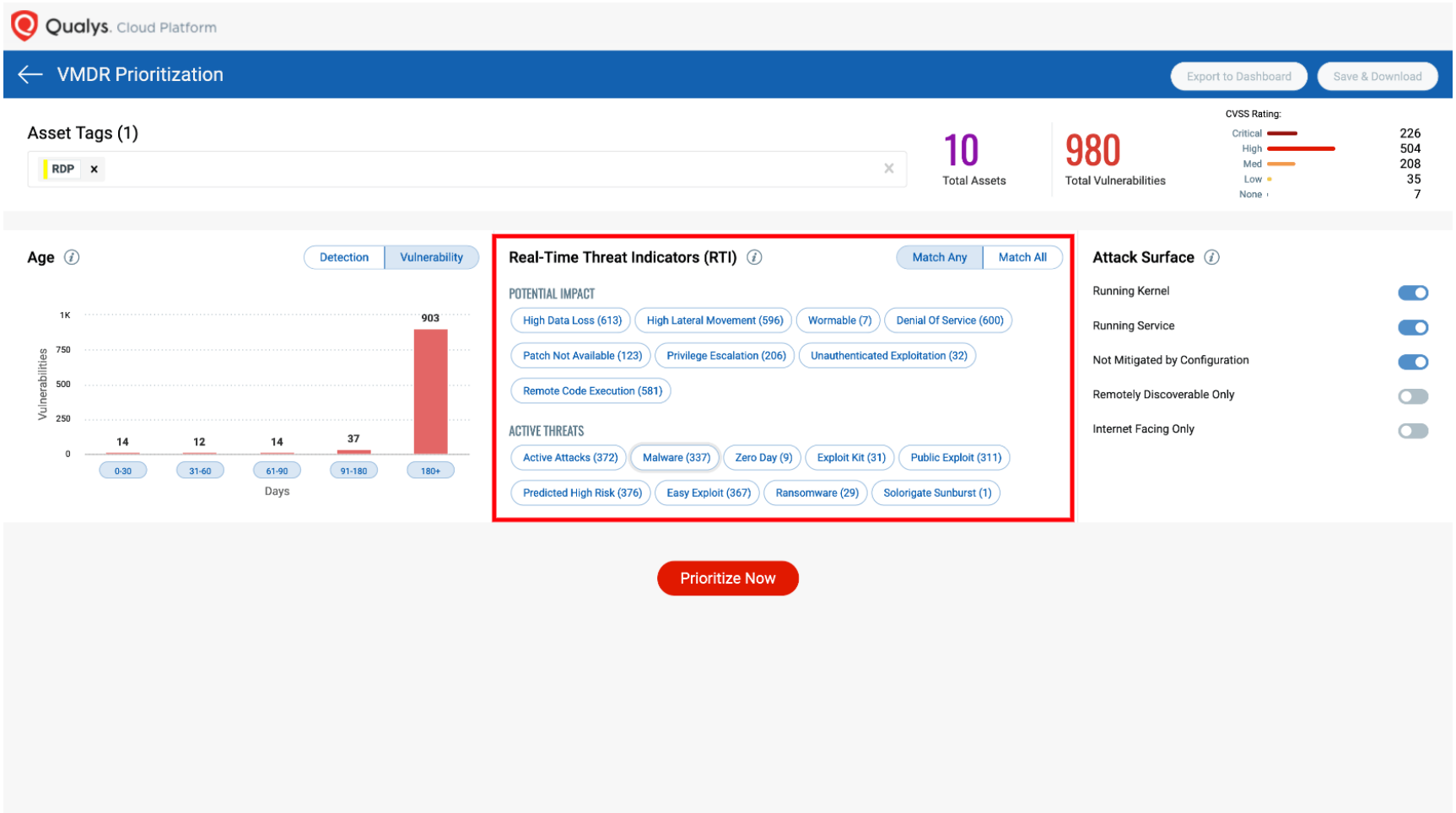
In the middle of the page, Real-Time Threat Indicators, from the Qualys Threat Protection application, can help to single-out vulnerabilities with known or existing threats.



Although any of the threats listed here, can impact a remote endpoint, we are especially interested in the "Malware" and Ransomware categories. Both types of threat indicators will significantly impact remote endpoint hosts.

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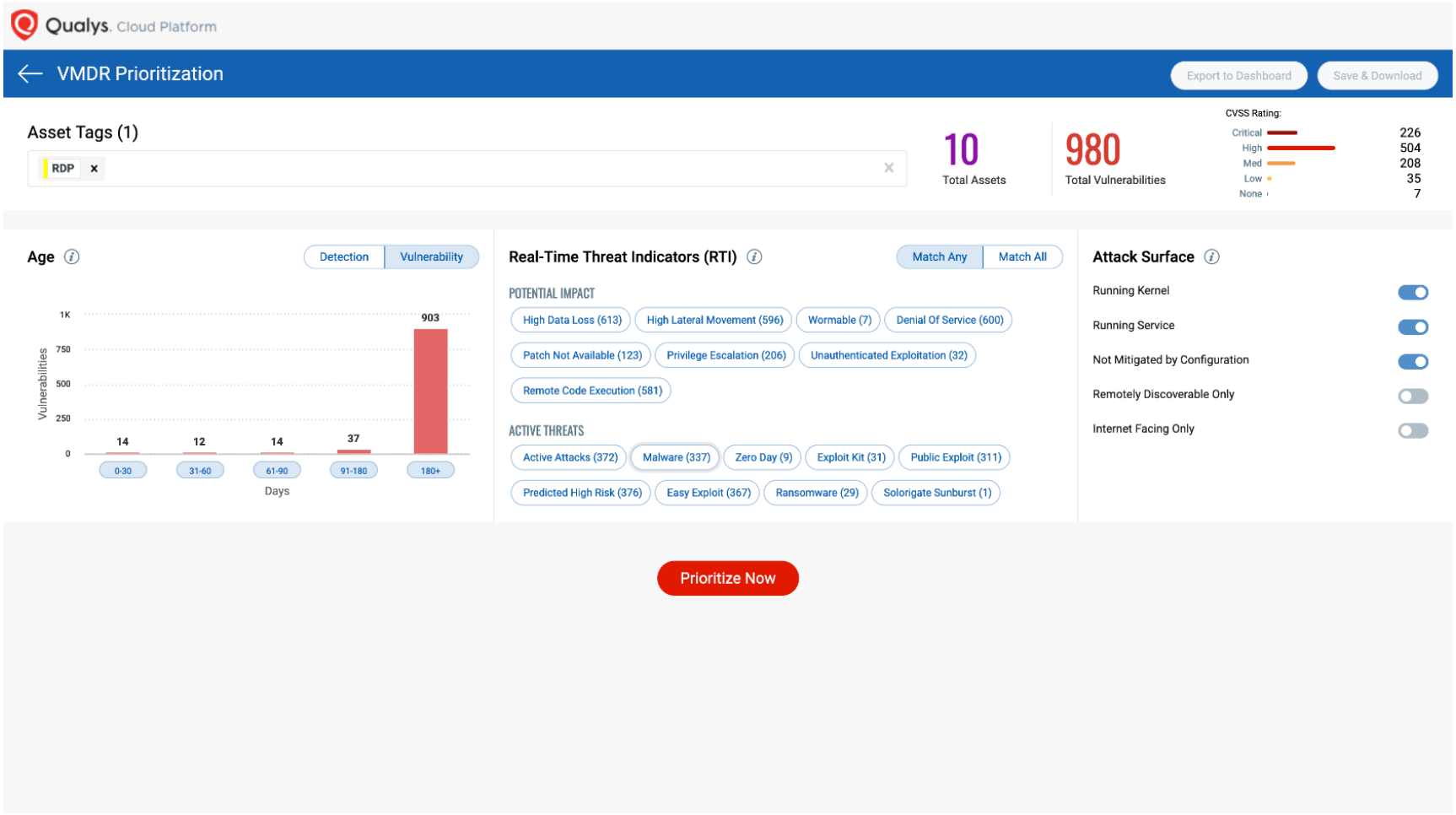

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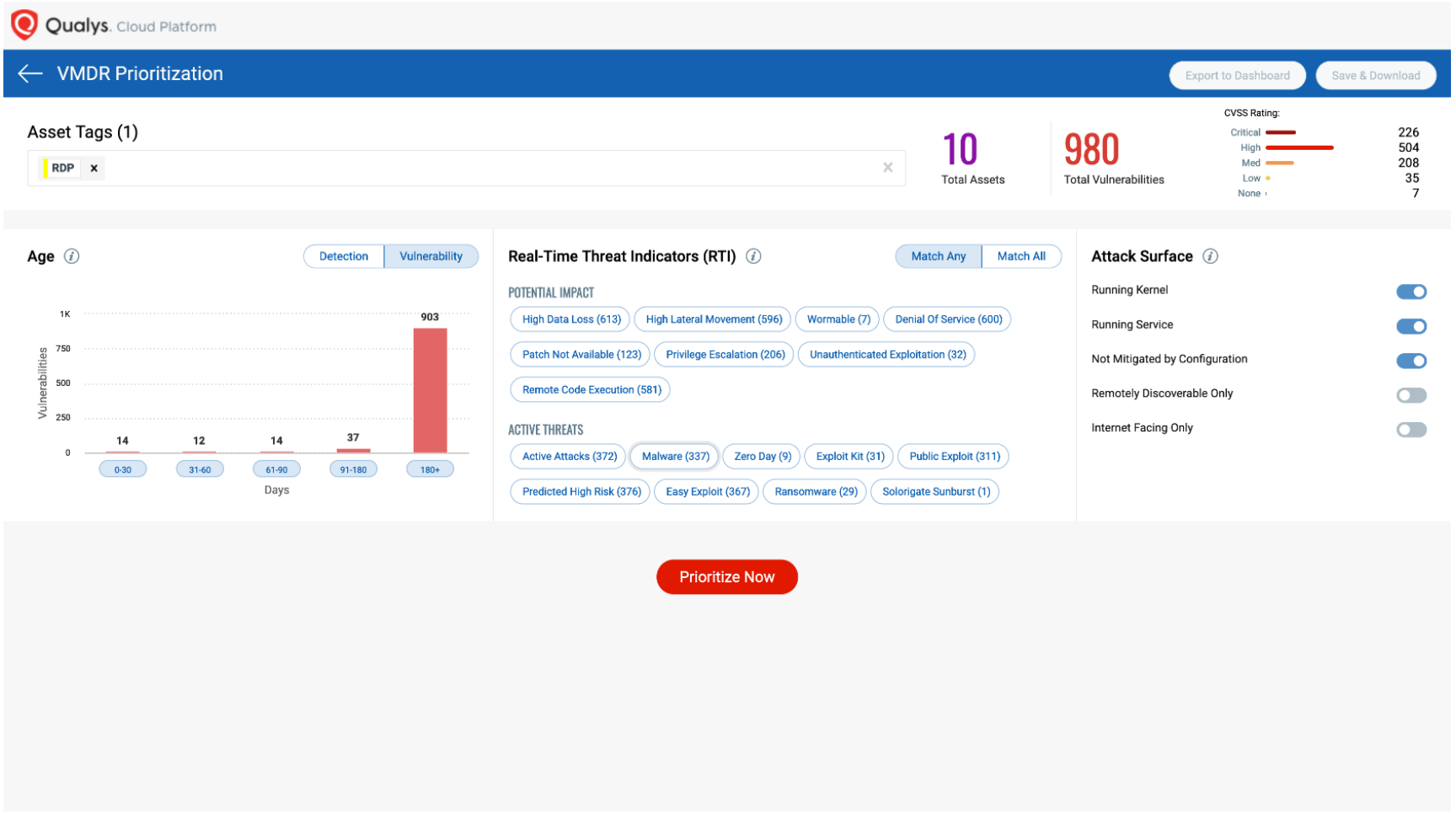
Under the ACTIVE THREATS section, of Real-Time Threat Indicators, select Malware.



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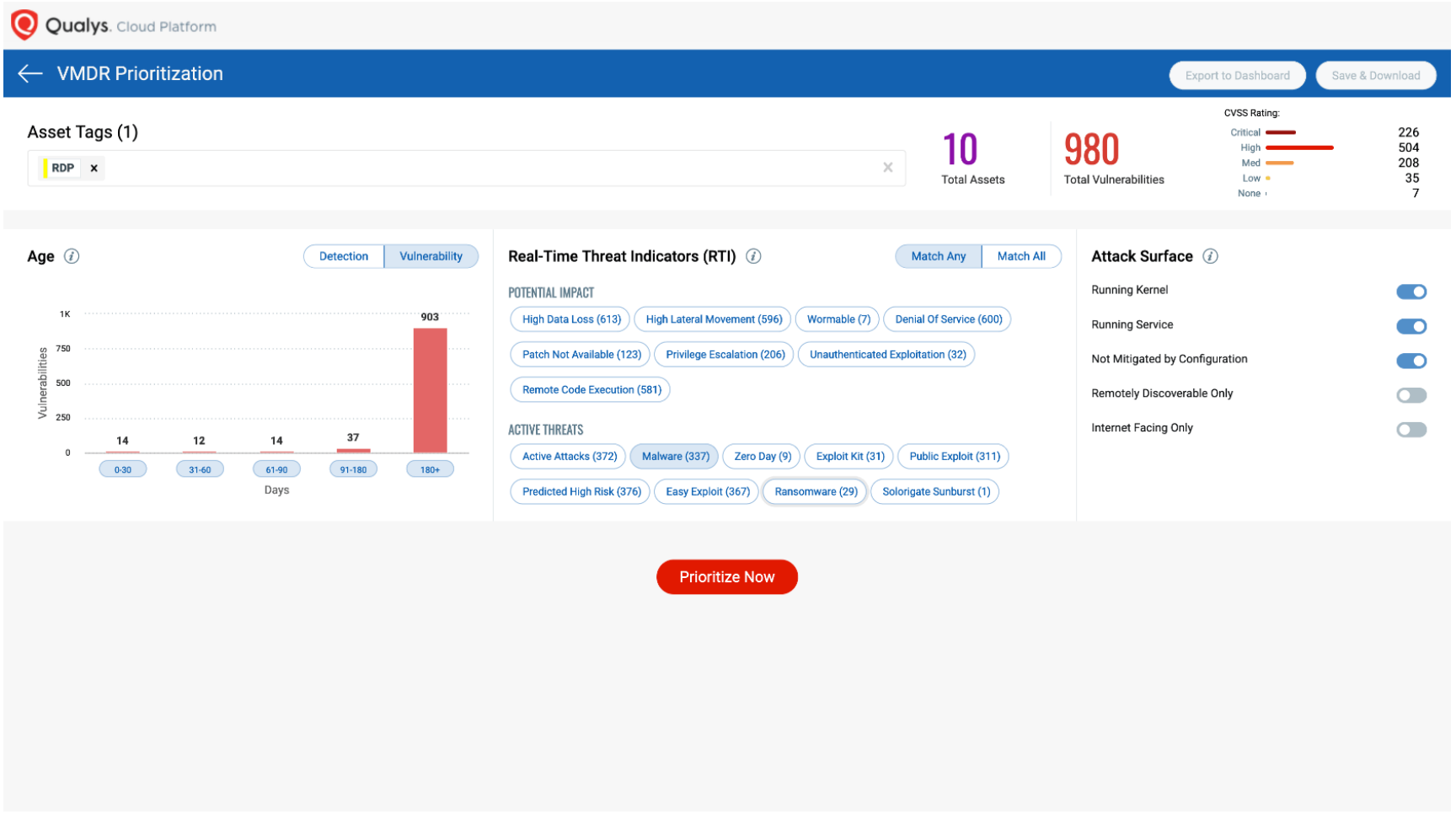
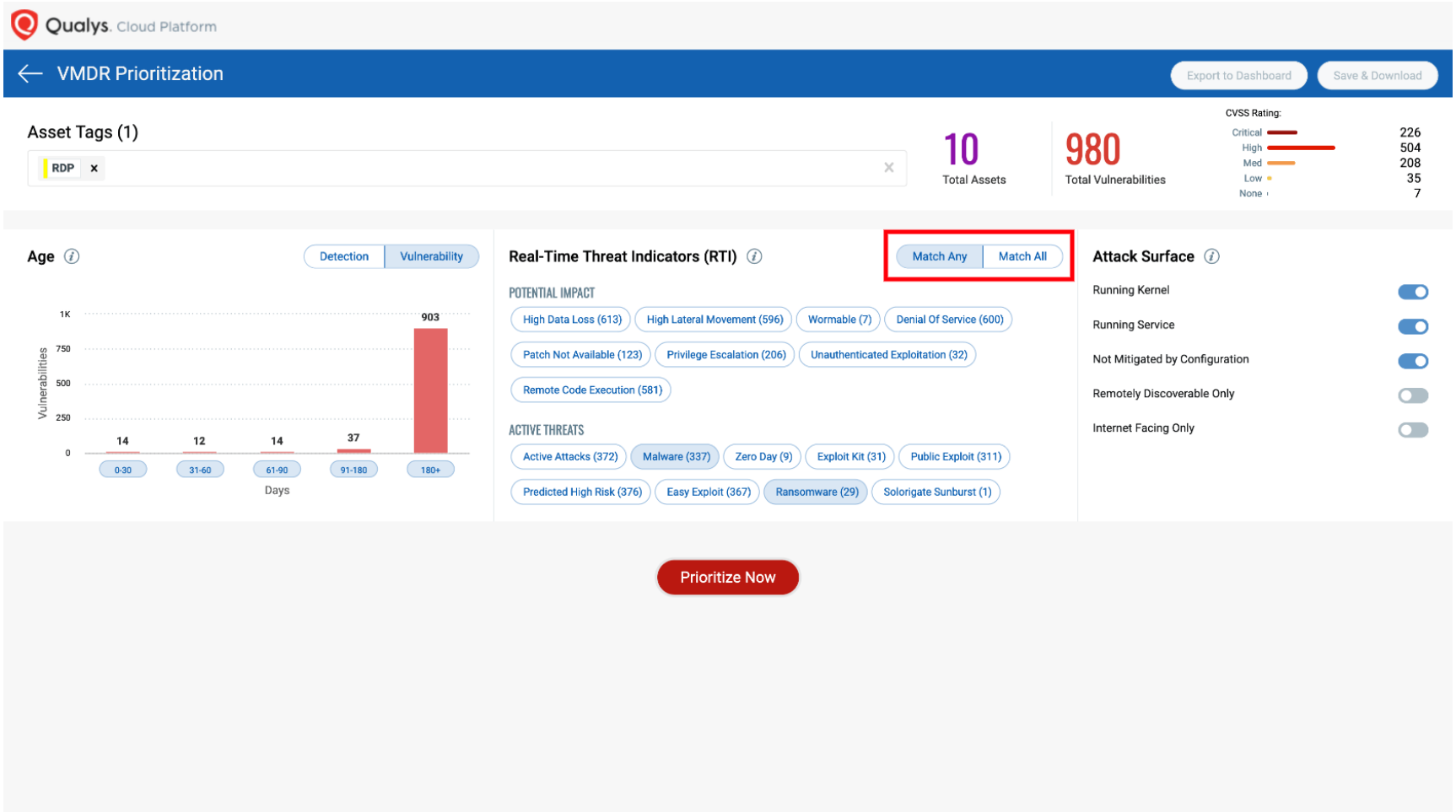
Under the same section, select Ransomware.



We'll leave the "Match Any" operator selected, to include hosts that have either type of vulnerability (those that are targeted by Malware or Ransomware).



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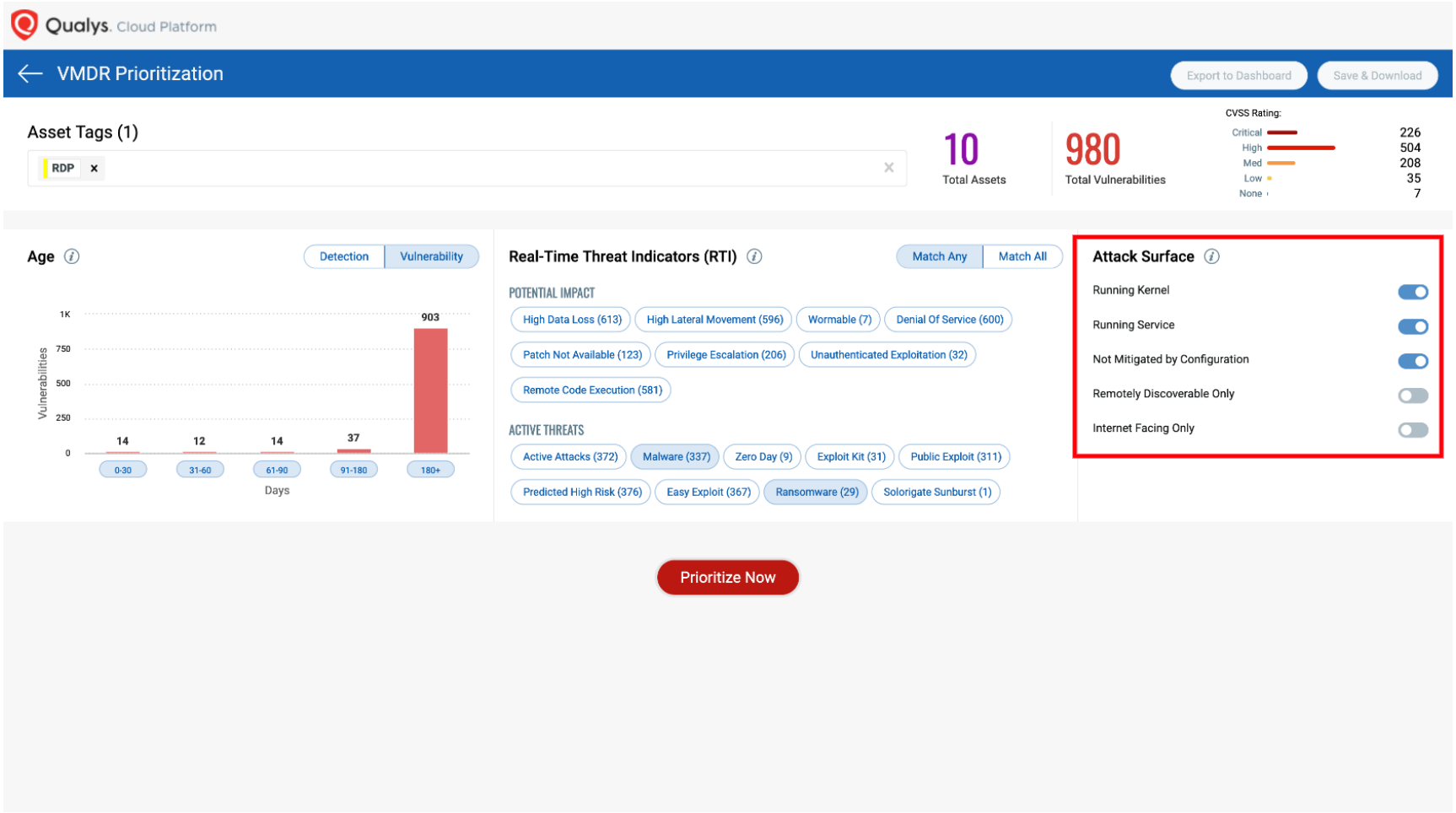
On the right, the "Attack Surface" options can help to add even more asset context to this report.



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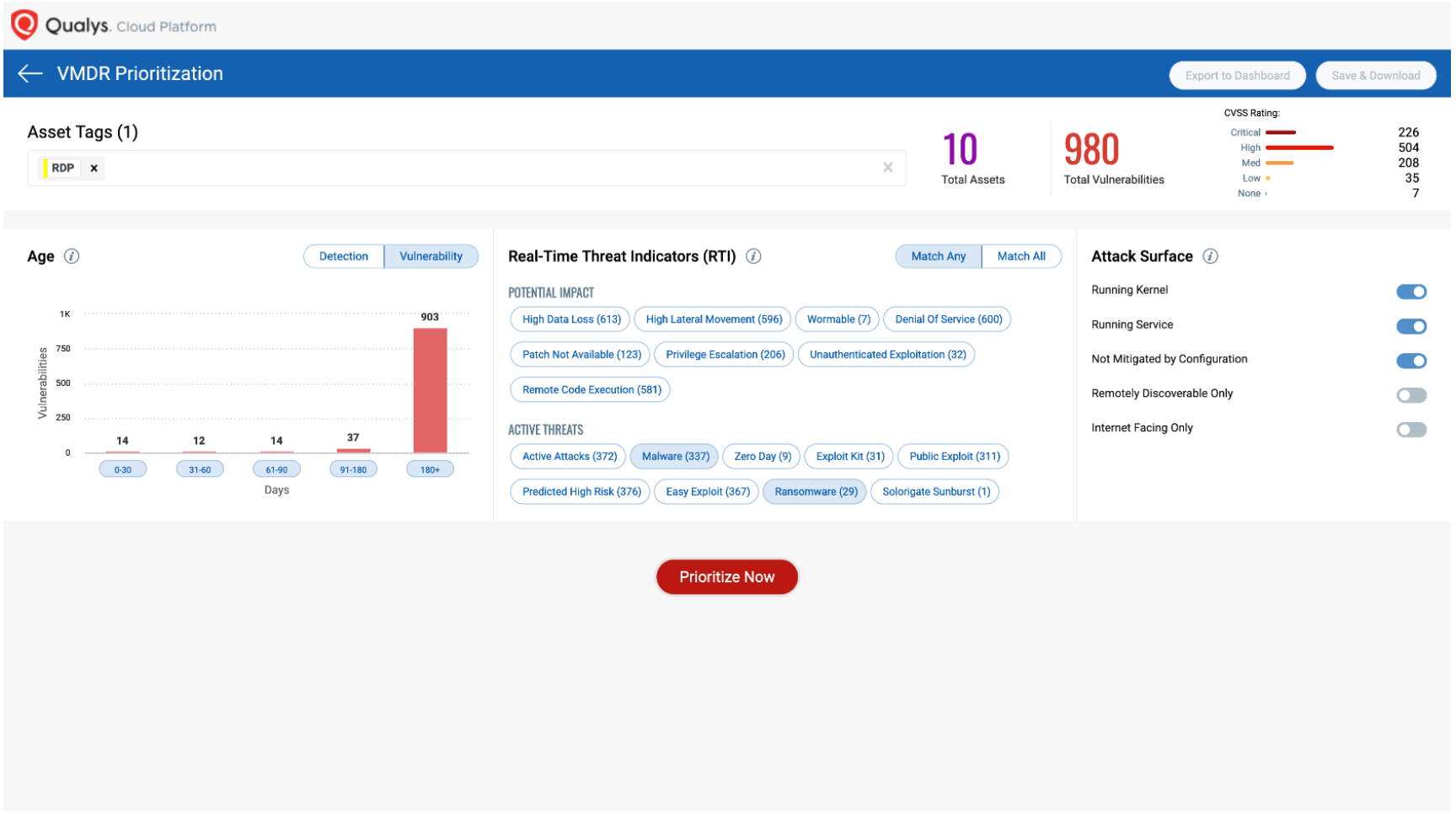
Leave the "Attack Surface" options at their default settings and click Prioritize Now.



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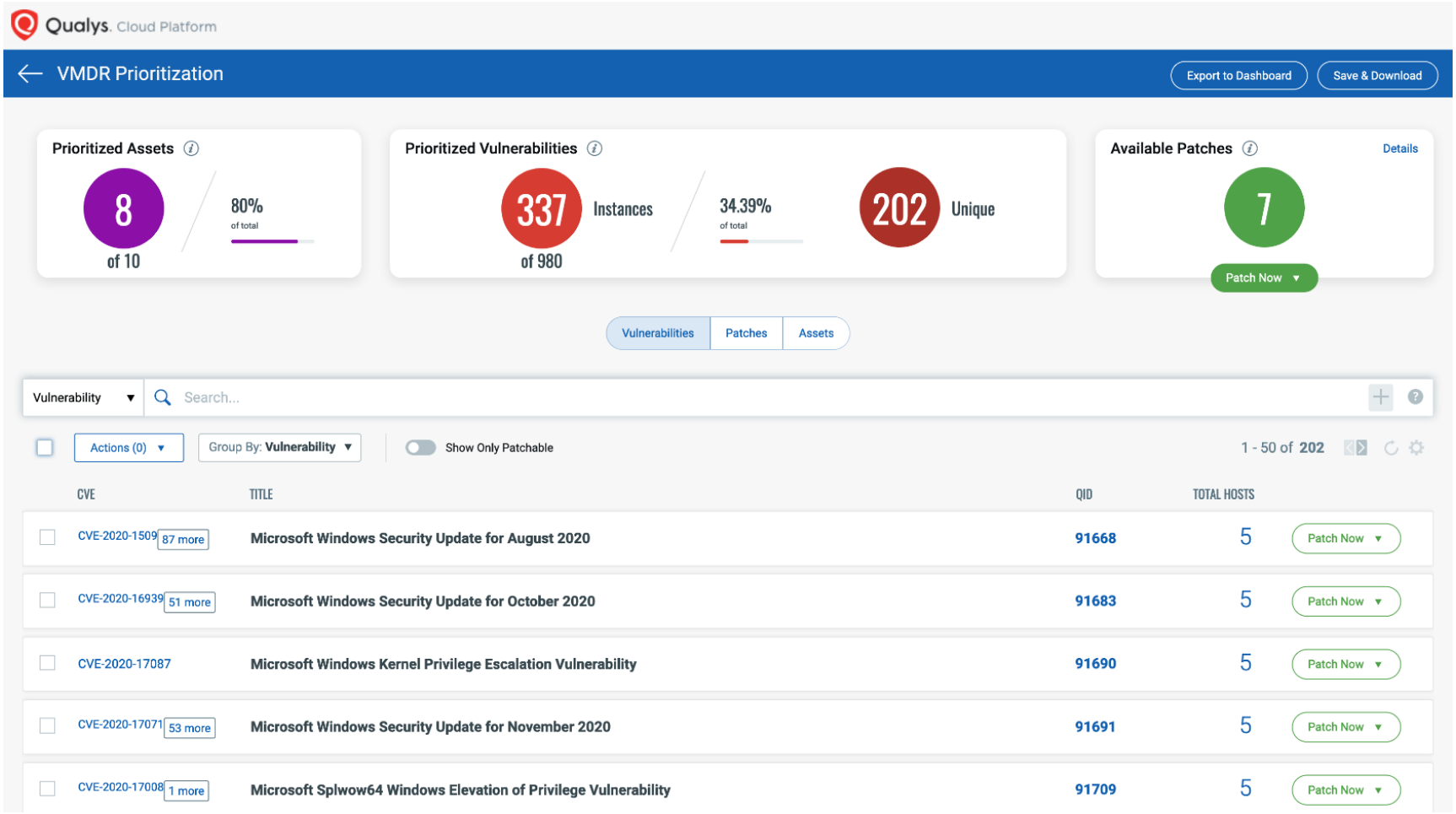
The priority options are applied and all affected vulnerabilities are listed. Changing any of the priority options, will immediately update the list of displayed vulnerabilities, patches, and assets.



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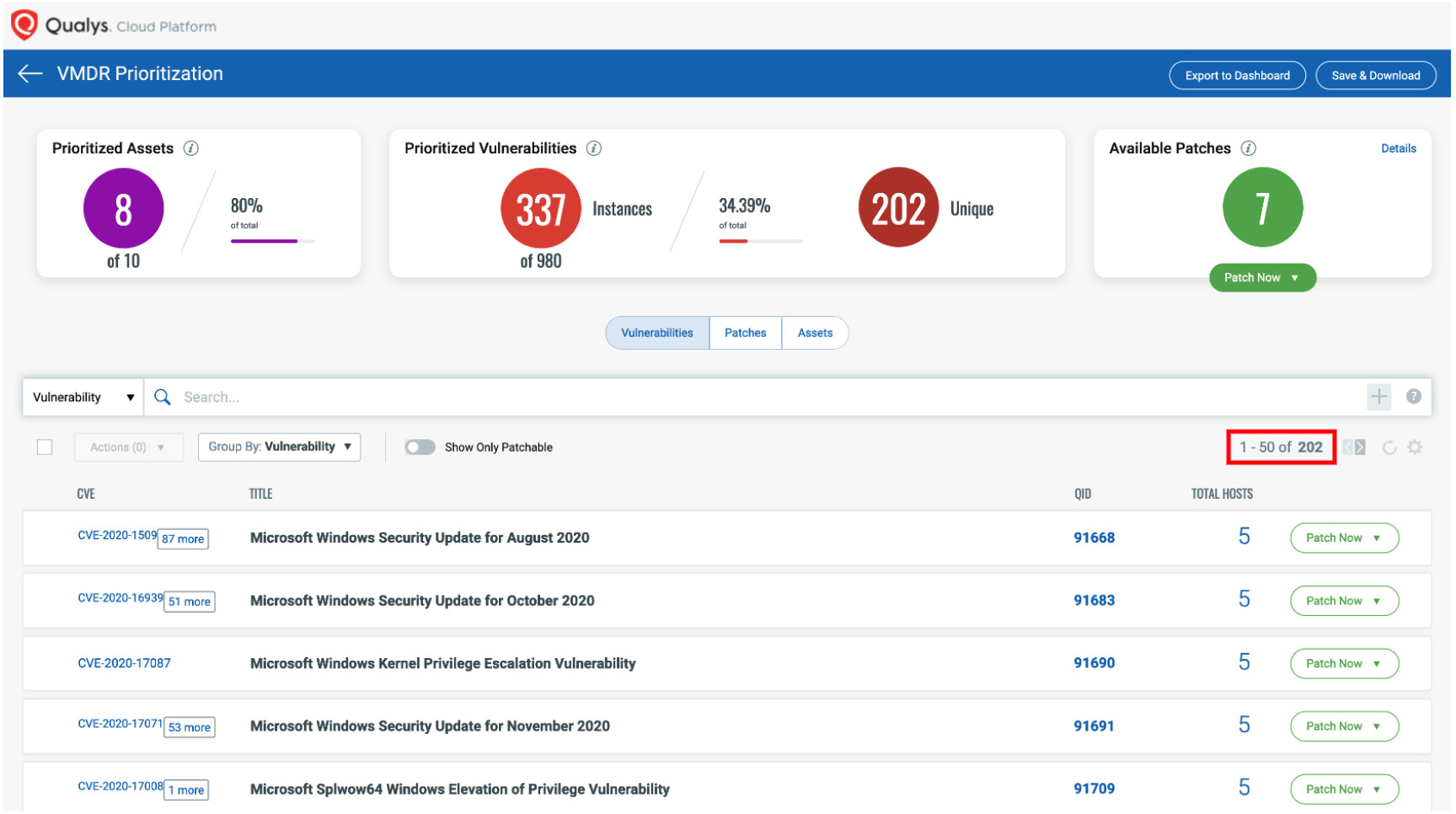
Presently, 202 unique vulnerabilities are listed.



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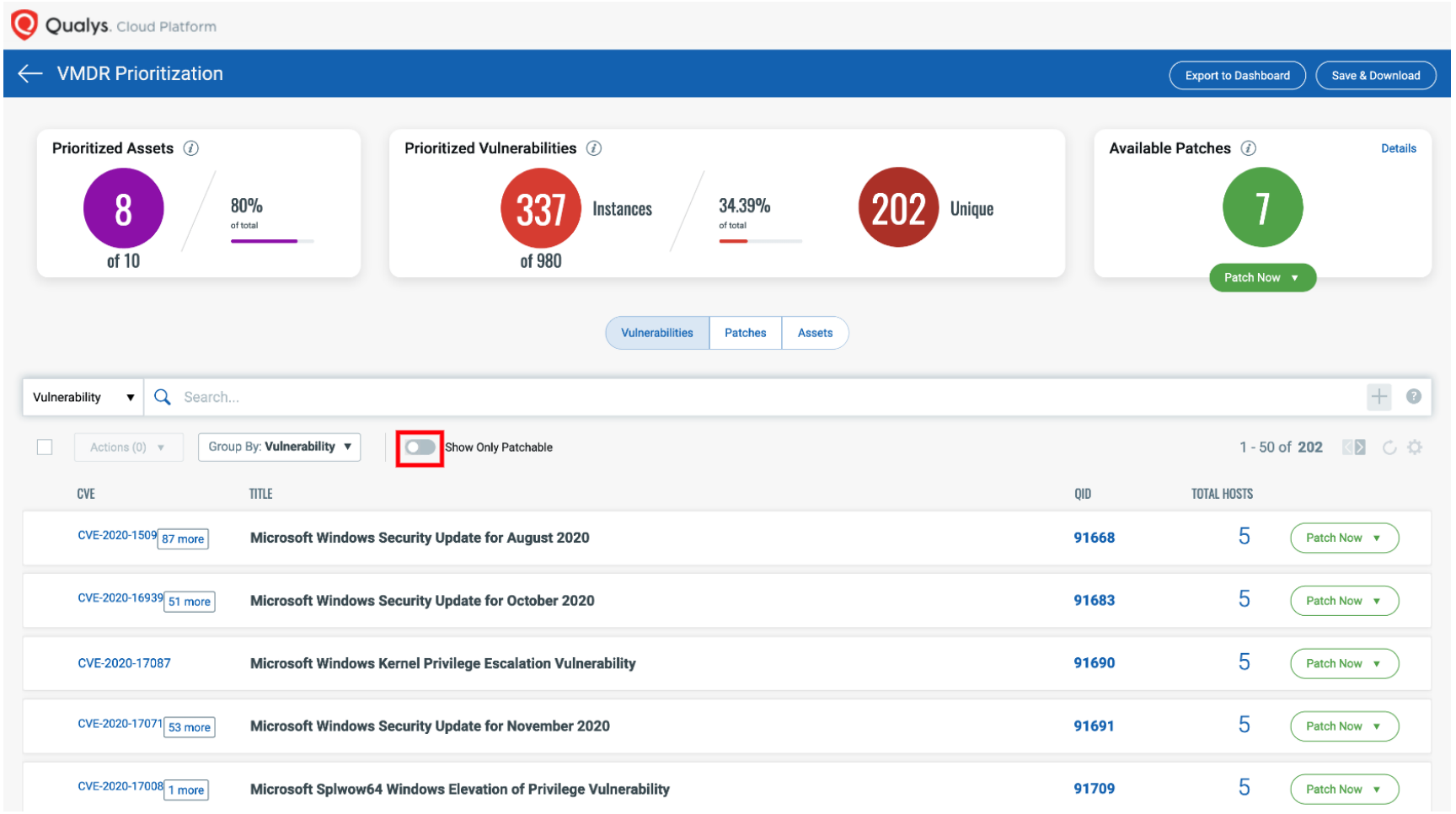
Click the toggle-switch to "Show Only Patchable" vulnerabilities.



The report is now updated to display only vulnerabilities that are "Qualys Patchable." These vulnerabilities were discovered on hosts running the Qualys Cloud Agent and the Patch Management module has been activated.

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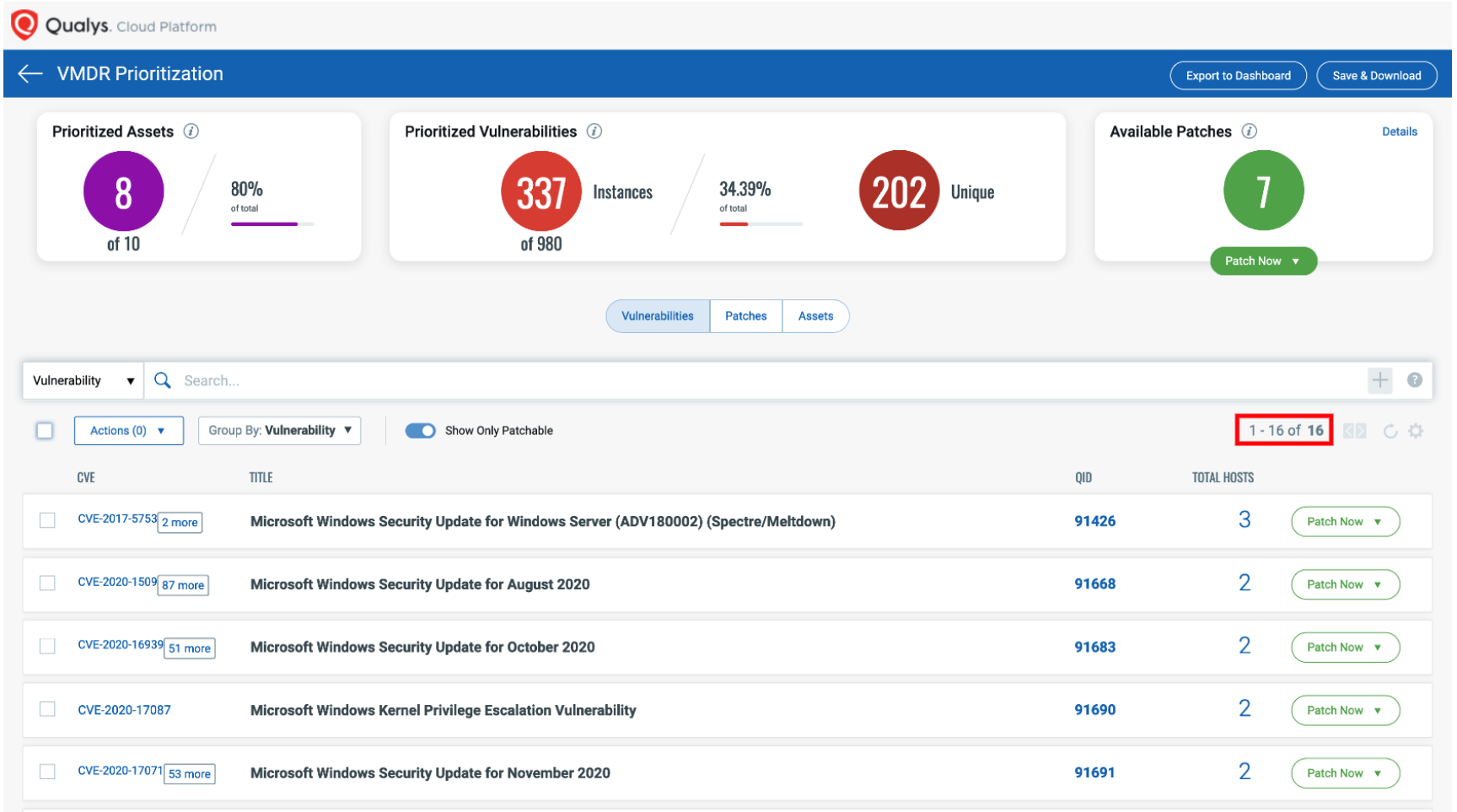

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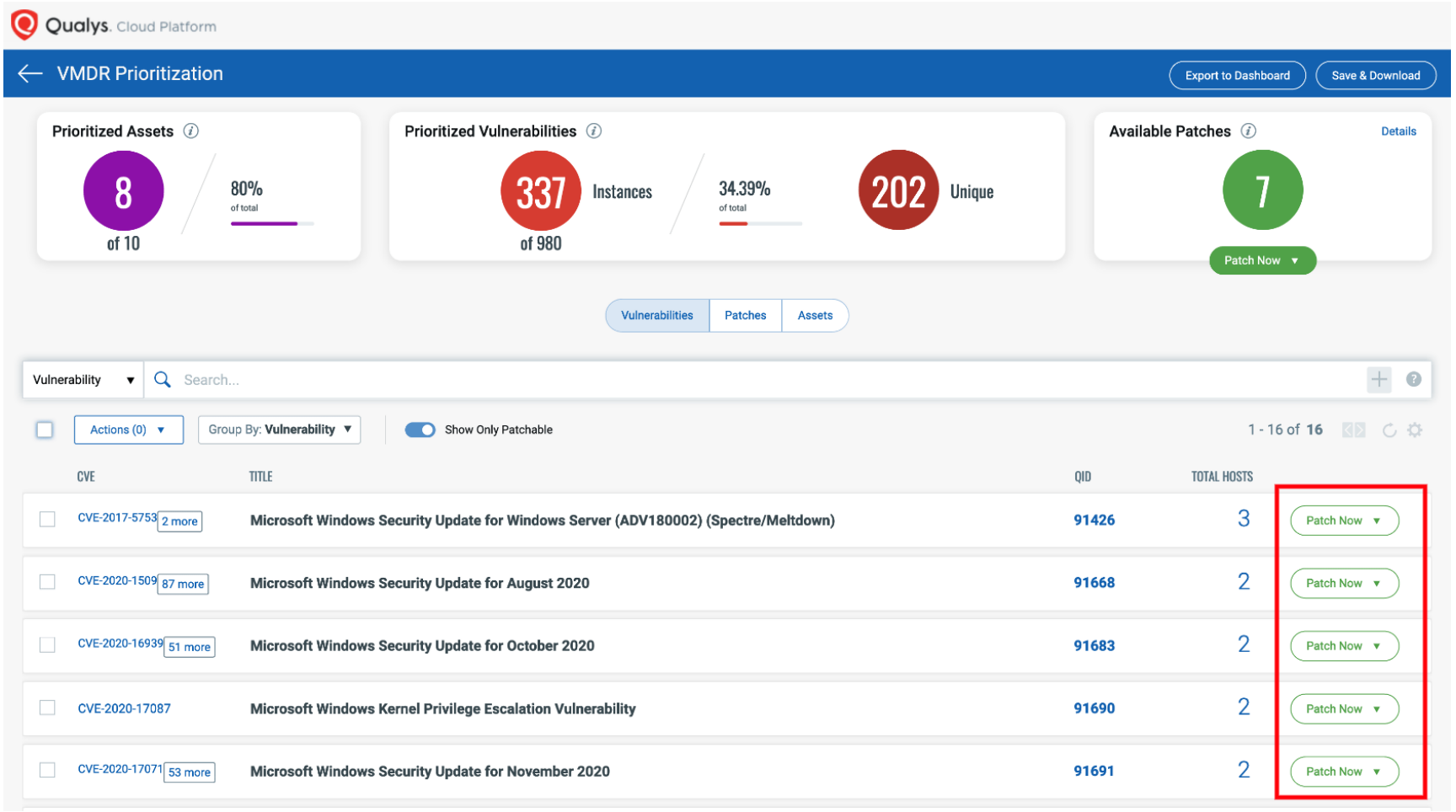
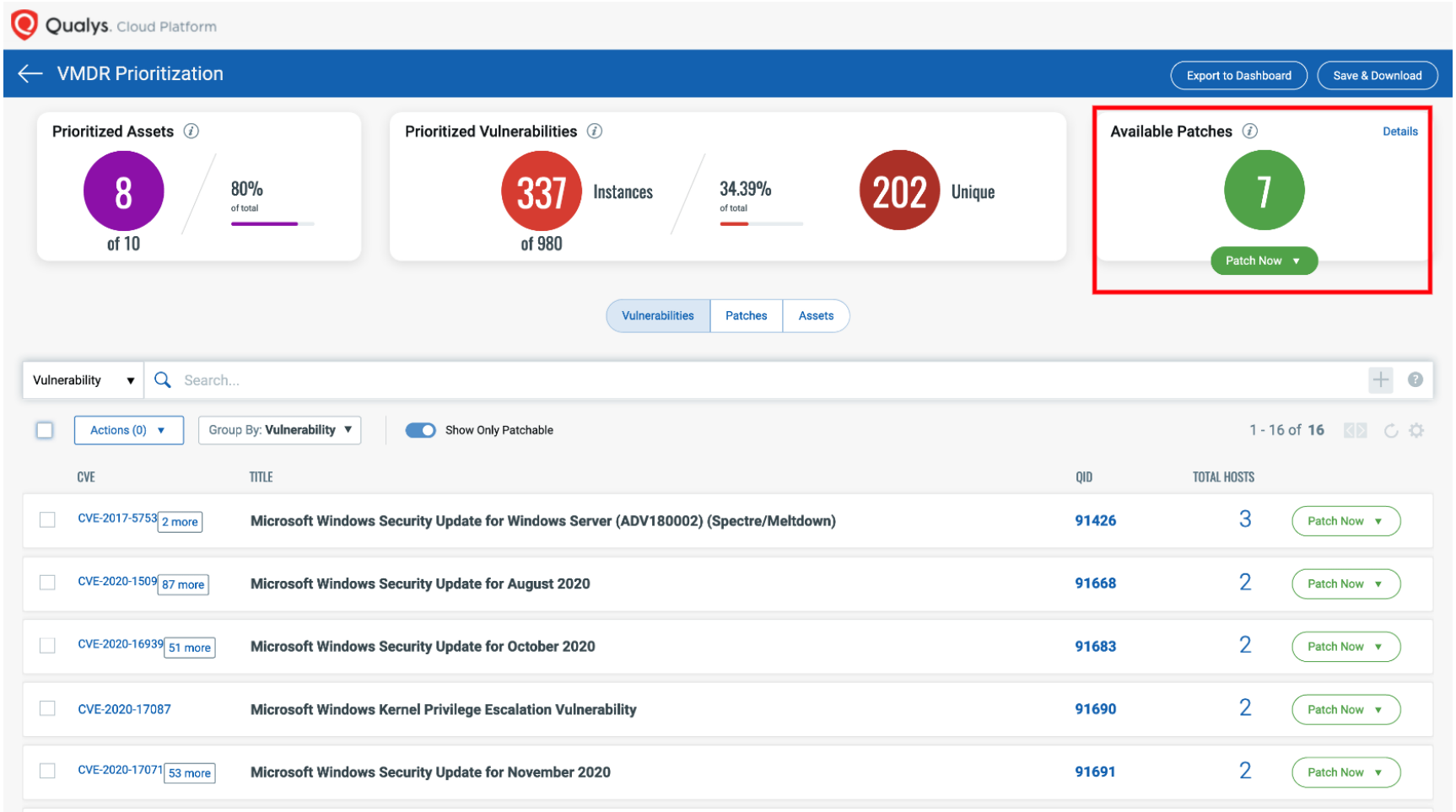
Patches can be individually added to a new or existing patch job...



...or you can deploy all available patches together. Later in this course, you'll perform another lab tutorial that will walk you through the steps to build a Patch Deployment Job.



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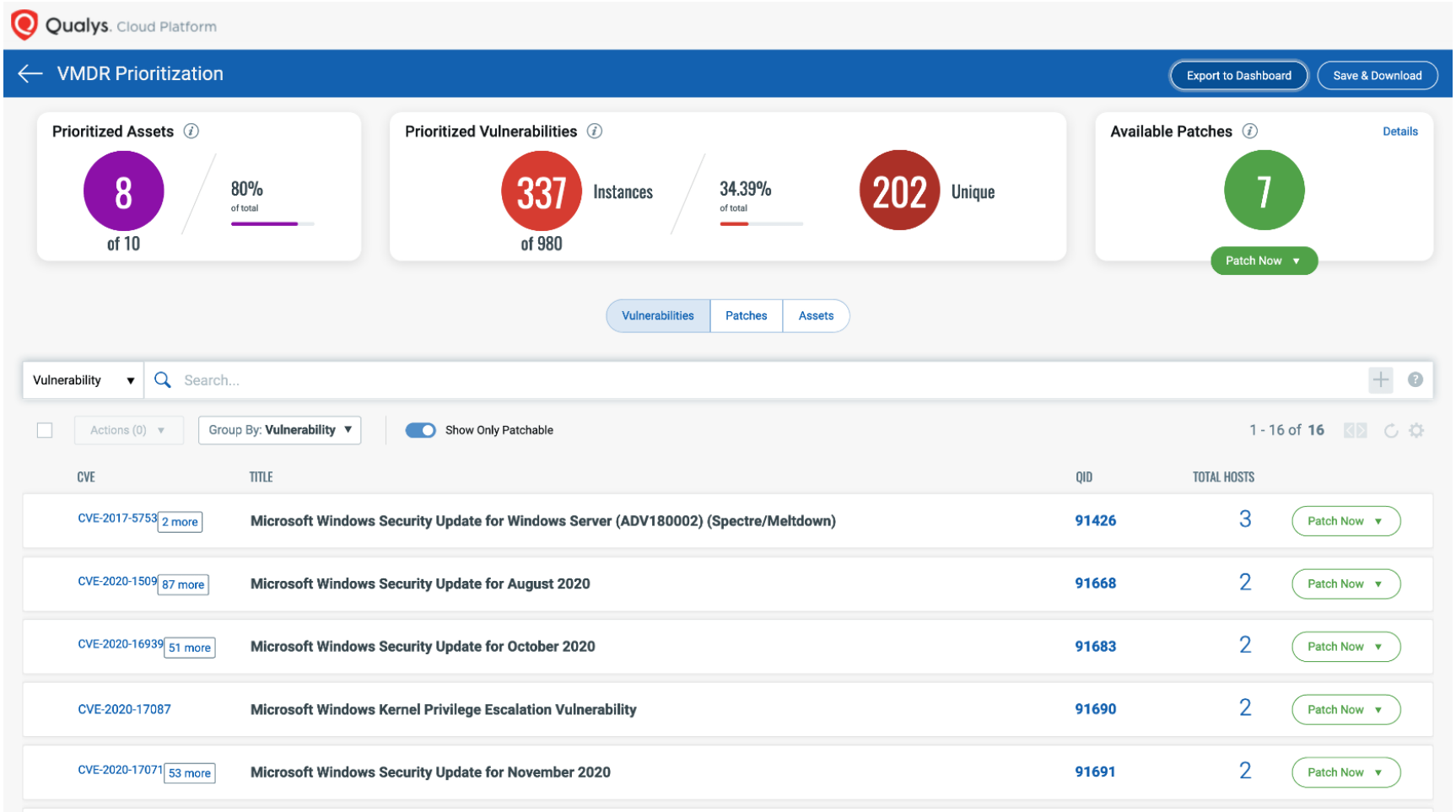
Any Prioritization Report can be exported to an existing dashboard as a widget. In the upper-right corner of this report, click the "Export to Dashboard" button.



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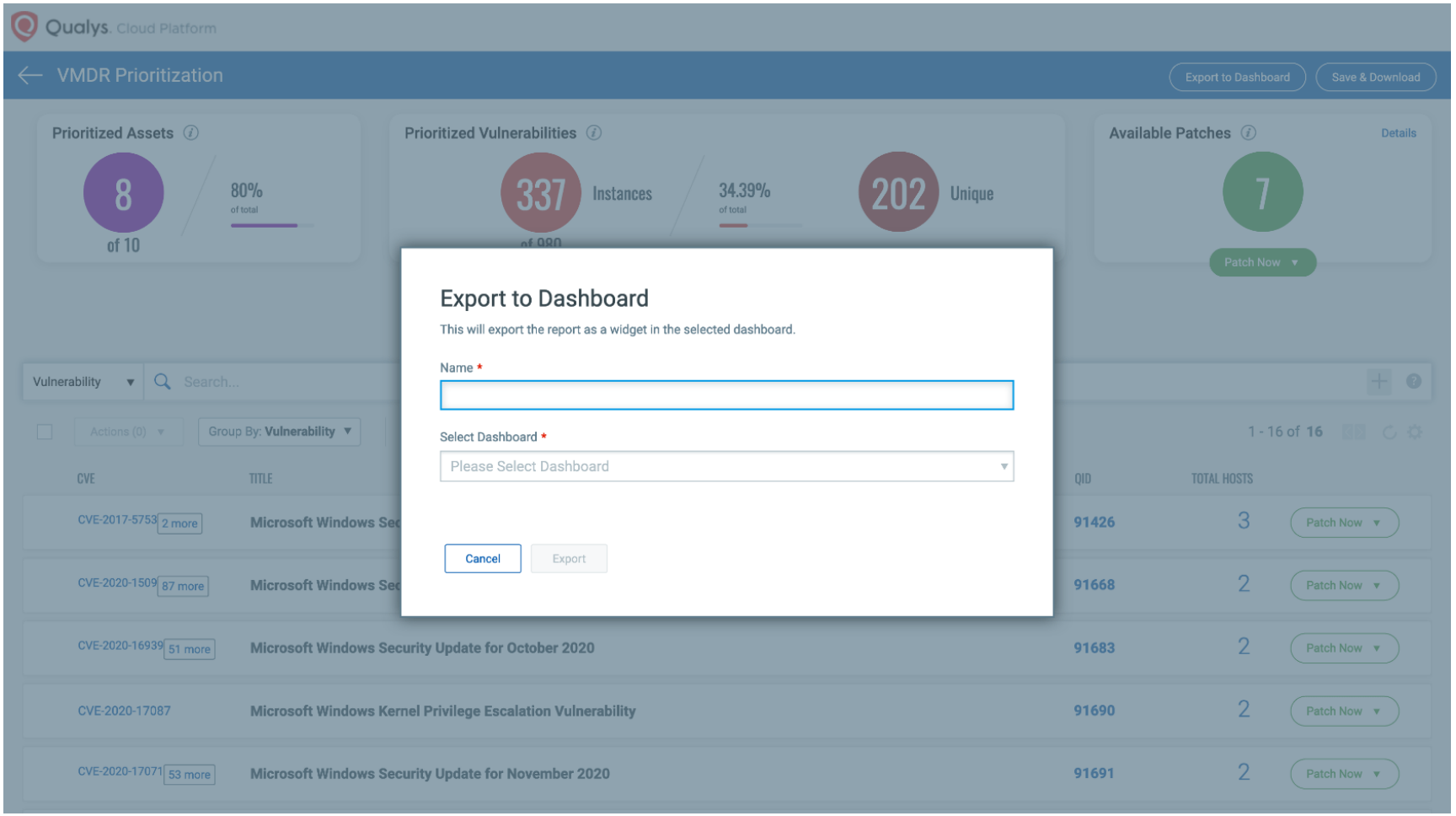
We'll add the Prioritization Report widget, to the VMDR Lab Dashboard, created earlier.



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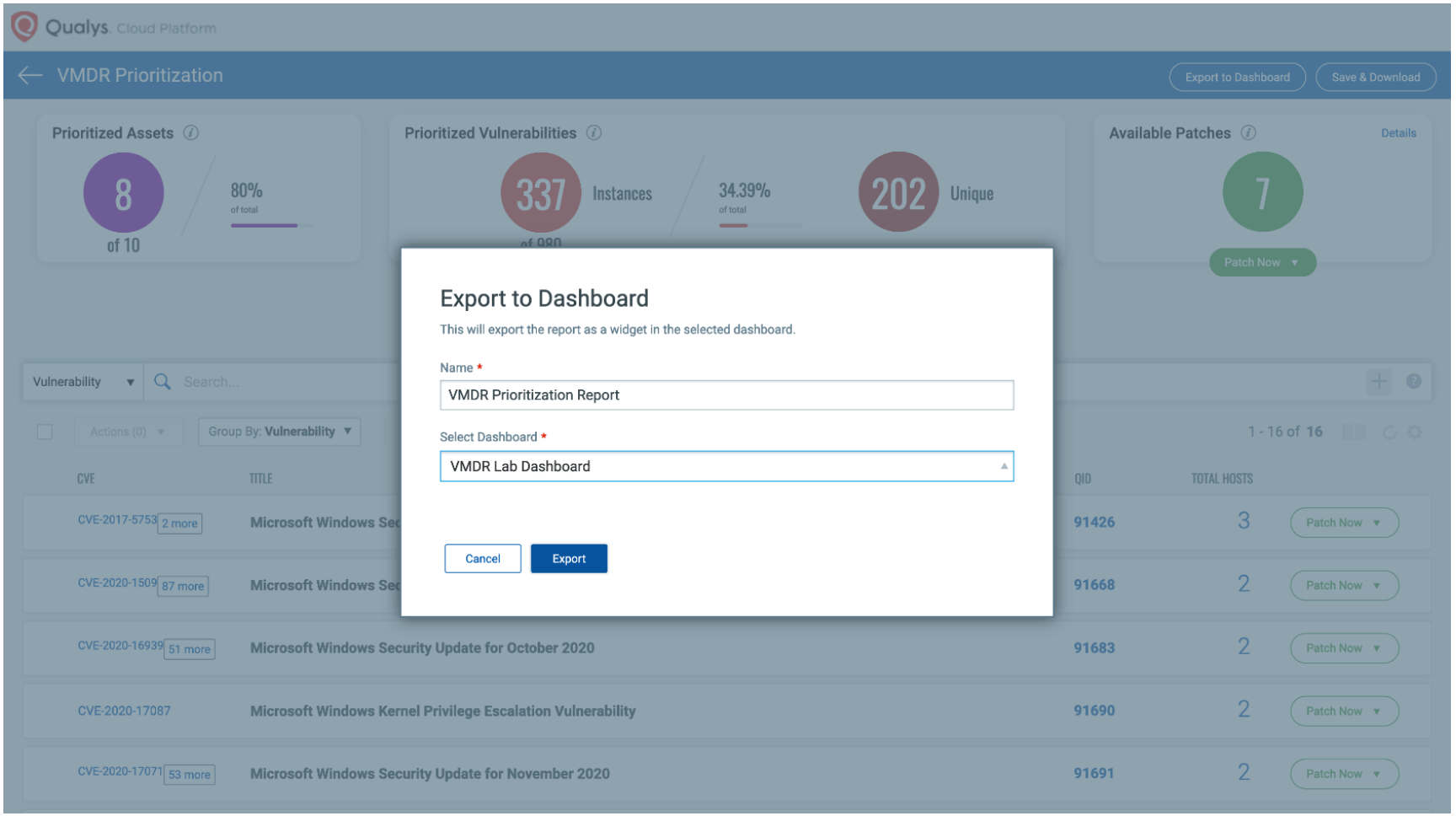
With a name provided and the target dashboard selected, click the "Export" button.



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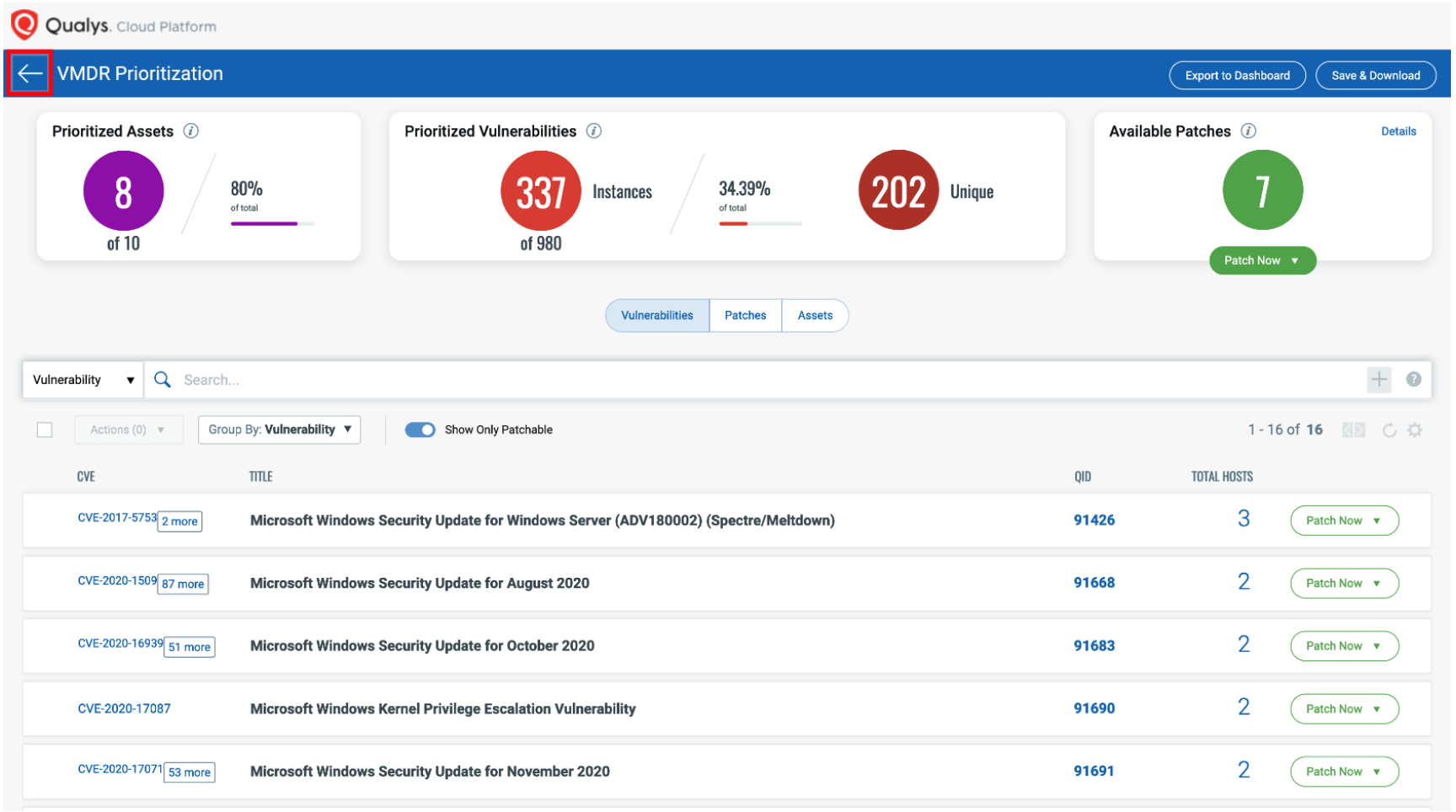
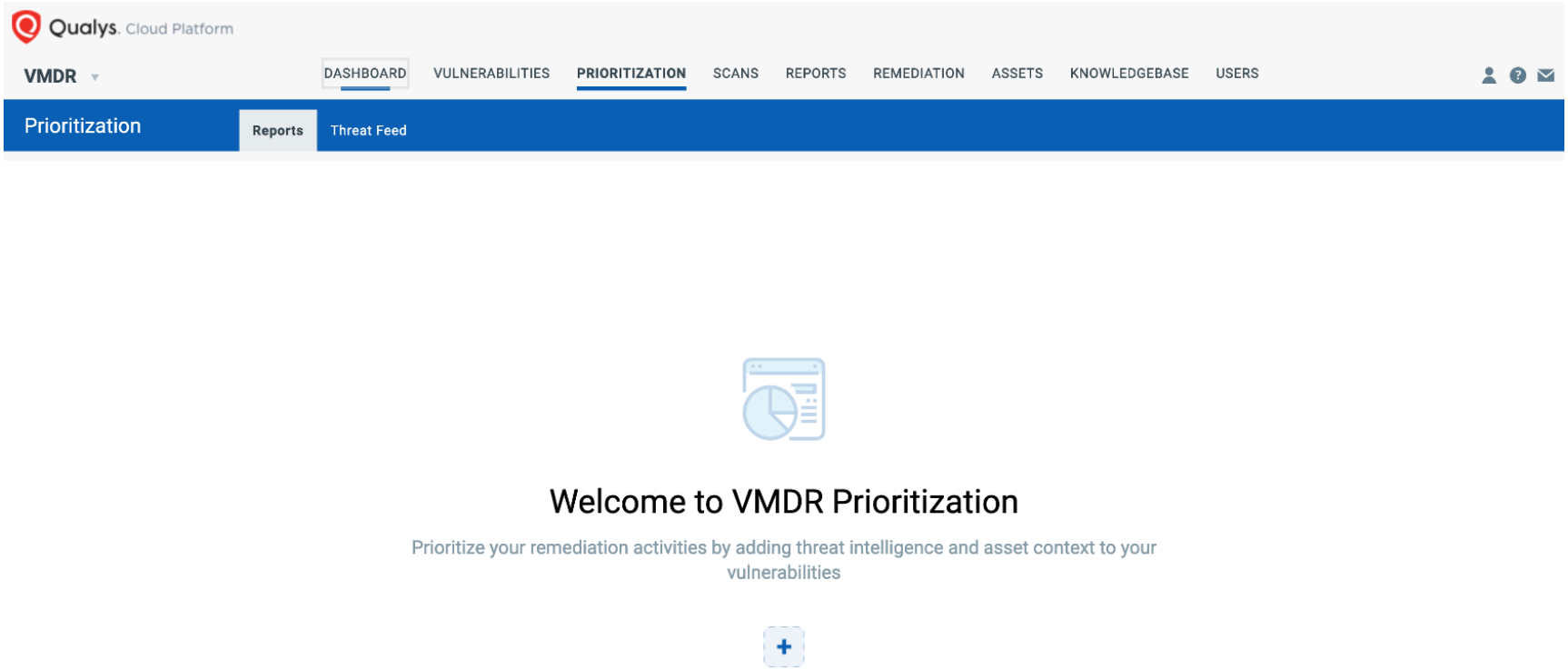
To see the results, click the navigation arrow to leave this report...



...and click DASHBOARD at the top of the page.



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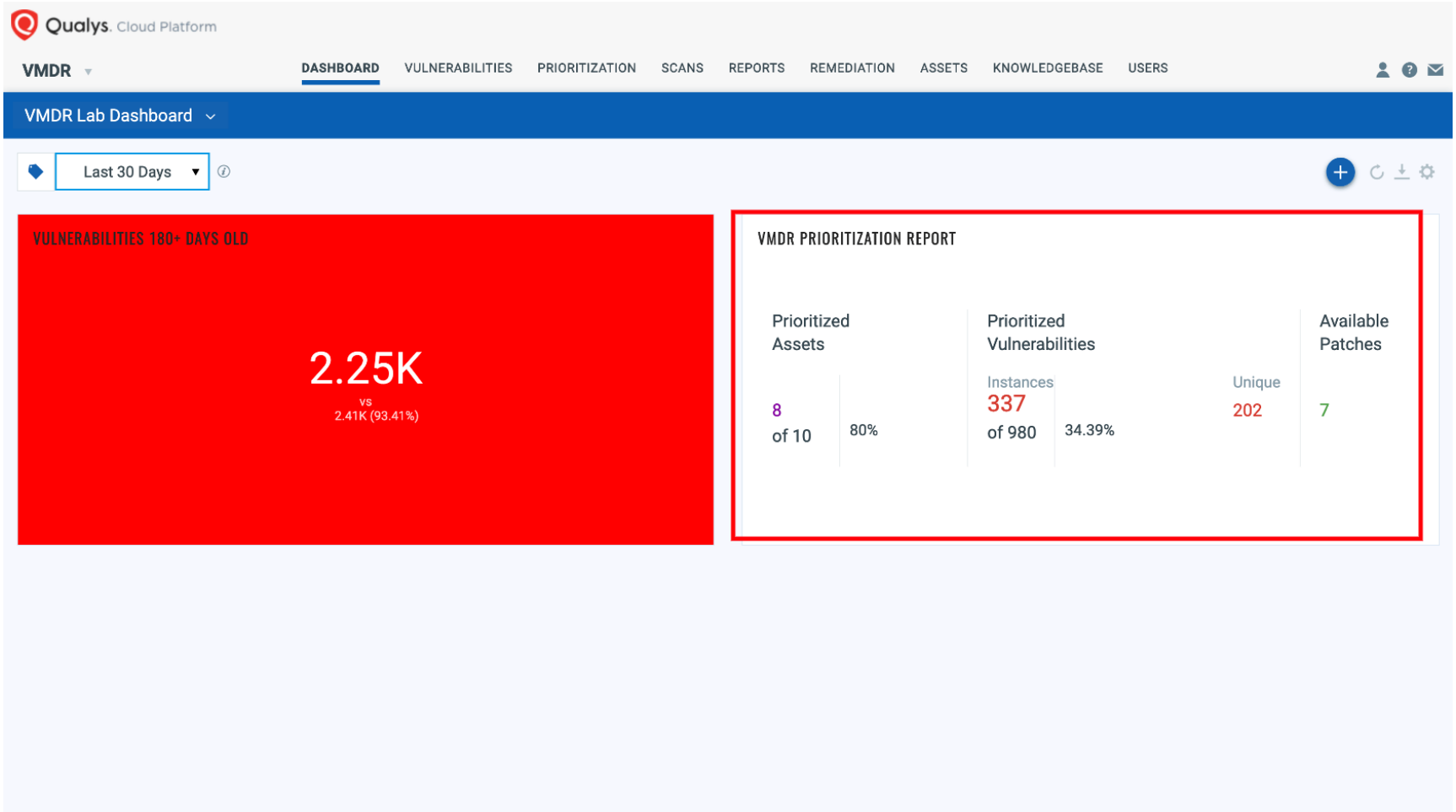
Once added to a dashboard, a "Prioritization Report" widget will be dynamically updated as conditions change. Clicking on this widget will reproduce the report from which it was created, automatically.



This concludes the "VMDR Prioritization Report" tutorial. Close this window and continue to read through your Lab Tutorial Supplement, for a review of the steps you just completed, and some additional details.

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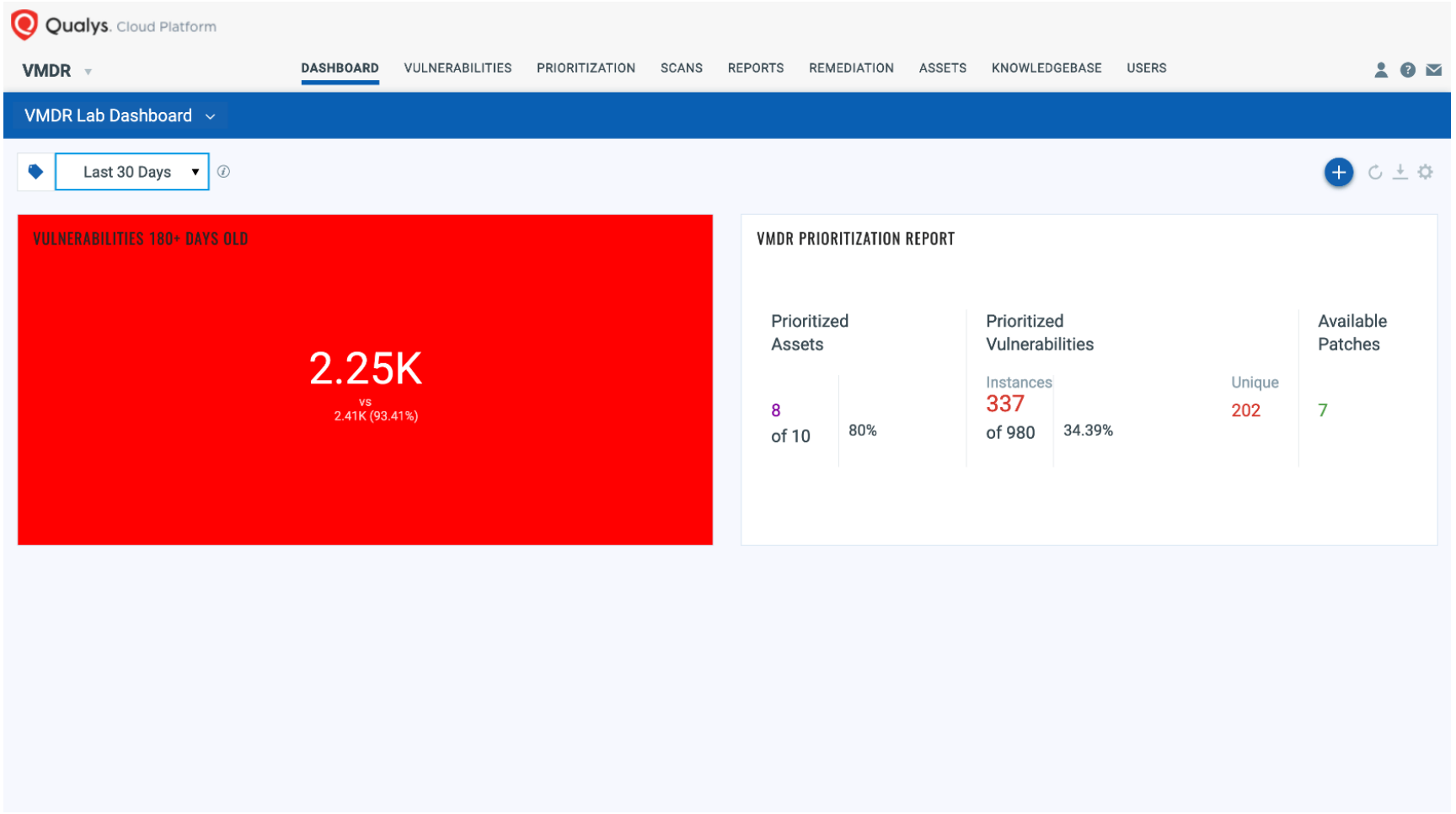

Scan to go to the interactive player