







Anthem's Massive Data Breach



- How was the breach discovered? An Anthem IT System Administrator noticed that a database query was being run using his identifier code although he had not initiated it
- The Anthem attack seems to have relied on malware & tools used by Chinese hackers
- The hackers used a stolen employee password to access the database
- What now? Passwords have been reset for all employees with privileged access to database systems
- Also, access has been blocked to any access that requires only one password to such sensitive systems
- Note: in 2013, Wellpoint (now called Anthem) settled with OCR for \$1.7
 M due to improper EPHI safeguards; unauthorized access was allowed
 through its online health insurance portal (testing was inadequate & not
 checked to see modifications performed as intended)



Breach History & Fine with Wellpoint



- Wellpoint did not adequately implement policies & procedures for authorizing access to EPHI of its web-based application database
- Wellpoint did not perform an adequate technical evaluation in response
 to a software upgrade, an operational change affecting the security of
 EPHI maintained in its web-based application database that would
 establish the extent to which the configuration of the software providing
 authentication safeguards for its web-based application met HIPAA
 requirements
- WellPoint did not adequately implement technology to verify that a
 person or entity seeking access to EPHI maintained in its web-based
 application database is the one claimed
- Between October 23, 2009, until March 7, 2010, WellPoint impermissibly disclosed the EPHI, including the names, dates of birth, addresses, SS #, telephone numbers & health information, of approximately 612,000 individuals whose EPHI was maintained in the web-based application database
- Wellpoint fined \$1.7 M by OCR/HHS on July 11, 2013

































































