Potential Terror Threat Targeted at Health Sector - AHA & Health-ISAC Joint Threat Bulletin

Threat Bulletins	TLP:WHITE	Alert Id: aa319249	2025-03-19 19:07:39

On March 18, 2025, the American Hospital Association (AHA) and Health-ISAC observed a social media post related to the active planning of a coordinated, multi-city terrorist attack on hospitals in the coming weeks.

The AHA and Health-ISAC have created and are sharing this bulletin out of an abundance of caution to spread awareness of the potential threat. The AHA and Health-ISAC are in close contact with the FBI regarding the threat and will provide additional information as it becomes available.

At this time, no information is available to either corroborate or discount this threat's credibility. Generally, foreign terrorist groups do not publicize their upcoming attacks. However, this widely viewed post may encourage others to engage in malicious activity directed toward the health sector, so threats of this nature should be taken seriously. Security teams should review emergency management plans and spread awareness of the potential threat internally.

It is recommended that organizations review and evaluate the coordination and capabilities of physical security, cybersecurity, and emergency management plans. Also, increasing relationships with local and federal law enforcement may streamline response efforts during an attack.

In addition, staff and security teams should remain vigilant for any suspicious activity, as well as people or vehicles on organizational premises or in the vicinity of health sector facilities. If any are identified, it is advised to notify local law enforcement immediately.

Additional Details

On March 18, 2025, user @AXactual made a post on X with details related to the active planning of a coordinated, multi-city terrorist attack on United States health sector organizations. The details of the post can be reviewed at the above link to gain further insight into the specific nature of the threat.

Recommendations

The AHA and Health-ISAC recommend that teams review security and emergency management plans and heighten staff awareness of the threat.

Although the threat's credibility cannot be verified at this time, physical security protocols and practices should be reviewed. Having a publicly visible security presence can help mitigate the risk of being a potential target. The post referencing the attacks states that the primary targets are mid-tier cities with low-security facilities. With the information claiming multiple simultaneous targets, they would likely select health sector facilities with visibly weak security and conduct prior planning to coordinate the attacks. It is common

practice for individuals contemplating targeted acts of violence to conduct pre-attack surveillance and reconnaissance. Having a visible security presence can mitigate being chosen as a target during the planning phase of an attack.

Watch for further information from the AHA and Health-ISAC on this potential threat.

Health-ISAC provides this information to prevent the successful exploitation and disruption of your security apparatus. For more information, see Health Industry Cybersecurity Practices (HICP): Managing Threats and Protecting Patients.
Reference(s): X.Org

Tags: American Hospital Association, AHA, Terrorism
TLP:WHITE: Subject to standard copyright rules, TLP:WHITE information may be distributed without restriction.
HICP:
The Health Industry Cybersecurity Practices (HICP) refer to a set of guidelines and recommendations developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to help healthcare organizations improve their cybersecurity posture. The HICP was created in response to the increasing threat of cyberattacks and data breaches in the healthcare sector, which has been a target for cybercriminals due to the sensitive and valuable nature of healthcare data.

The HICP resources are aimed at helping healthcare organizations of all sizes, including small, medium, and large entities. It provides practical and actionable guidance for managing and mitigating cybersecurity risks in healthcare environments, with a focus on five key cybersecurity threats: ransomware, phishing, loss or theft of equipment or data, insider threats, and attacks against connected medical devices.

Conferences, Webinars, and Summits:
https://h-isac.org/events/
For Questions or Comments:
Please email us at toc@h-isac.org