THE IAC/S BULLETIN

Updates from the Office of Internal Controls, Audit Compliance & Information Security

What is information security?

According to the National Institute Standards of Technology (NIST), information security is the protection of and methods used to protect information, particularly electronic information, and information systems from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction to provide confidentiality, integrity, and availability (CIA).

What is the MDH Information Security (InfoSec) Program?

The MDH InfoSec Program is a risk-based program that gathers metrics to arrange phased continuous improvement processes for information security across the MDH organization. MDH established the InfoSec program to help protect against potential both information technology (IT) or non-IT threats or vulnerabilities to MDH systems and data.

Formerly reporting to the Office of Enterprise Technology (OET), the program now reports directly to the Secretary of MDH with a primary focus of protecting MDH's ability to continually provide secured mission-critical operations. Through personnel, policies, procedures, and standards, it ensures the availability of organizational information, confidentiality, integrity, and compliance with HIPAA, CMS, DoIT Security Manual, and federal and State mandates.

What data is being protected?

All MDH confidential, proprietary, and sensitive data.
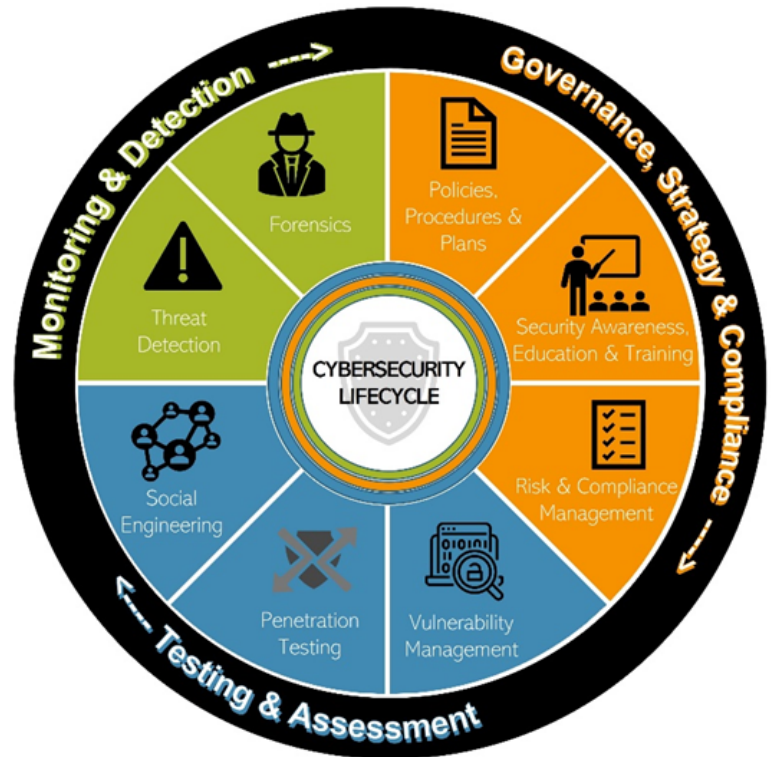
How does MDH InfoSec protect data?

The MDH InfoSec program has three focus areas and eight related categories of action designed to protect the CIA (confidentiality, integrity, availability) of MDH data:

Focus: Governance, Strategy, and Guidance
- Policies, procedures, and plans
- Security awareness, education, and skills training
- Risk and compliance management

Focus: Testing and Assessment
- Vulnerability assessment and management
- Penetration testing
- Social engineering

Focus: Monitoring and Detection
- Threat detection
- Network security
- Forensics

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CONTACT US: mdh.cybersecurity@maryland.gov