6 Ways a Managed Services Approach Optimizes the Value of the Cloud in Healthcare

Healthcare IT departments are facing a growing challenge: how to protect business continuity across platforms amid increased ransomware attacks now that healthcare is the most targeted industry for cyberattack.

Organizations must create layers of protection—including cloud-based protection—not only to protect their data, but to prepare for the explosion of new structured and unstructured data from health wearables to biometric sensors to mobile health apps. Providers will need advanced capabilities for collecting disparate data, tying the data to patients' electronic medical records and analyzing the data to improve outcomes.

Adding to the challenge is that the right staffing approach is also critical to gaining optimal value from the investment in the public cloud.

62%
of healthcare leaders will focus digital investments on cloud computing.

64%
of healthcare executives say lack of IT skills are the reason digital initiatives fail.

The combination of a prefabricated cloud platform and a managed services approach to implementation and management brings a host of benefits to a move to the public cloud:

Cost containment:
Eliminate the expense of maintaining an on-premise data warehouse and a backup facility offsite while reducing overall costs through advanced orchestration. Managed services can also offer a cost-effective alternative to adding more IT staff. Through a cloud center of excellence existing IT staff can be reskilled and trained on advanced cloud tools as well.

Best practices:
A managed services IT staff that has deep experience in cloud migration can share best practices to moving to the public cloud and provide expert advice and technical support to your teams.

Continuous compliance:
A prefabricated cloud platform ensures automated qualification and validation of the cloud infrastructure prior to deploying your applications along with latest security patches and upgrades for a more robust cybersecurity defense.

Competitive advantage:

This transition provides the ability to leverage AI, machine learning, predictive analytics, and other technologies to remain competitive. It also sets the stage for a digital-first environment to support an increase in the need to manage, analyze and access structured and unstructured data from numerous sources.

Scalability:

Easily scale your data storage and staffing needs as things change without the need to recruit and train staff.

Meaningful insights:

Get insight into cloud usage across business units, along with updates on trends and forecast patterns to make informed decisions for your business.

A managed services approach, combined with a prefabricated cloud platform, makes the transition to the cloud more affordable, faster, and easier to execute.

At Fort Madison Community Hospital (FMCH) in southeast Iowa, IT leaders implemented a public cloud-based backup and disaster recovery solution for its EHR in March 2021 as they bolstered their cybersecurity defense. The impact: a highly flexible, highly scalable, and more reliable solution for disaster recovery, with improved recovery time and a 30% savings over private cloud solutions.

> **With our information now available on Amazon Web Services' public cloud platform, we know we can quickly and reliably recover from any disruptions, allowing our caregivers to continue to focus on patients,**

says **Shane Tepper**,
Chief Information Officer,
Fort Madison Community Hospital

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info@healthcaretriangle.com
(888) 706-0310