

Anne Genge - Cybersecurity: How can I know if my data systems have been set up to be secure?

Dr. O'Keefe: You must have your head in the sand and if you're not hearing and reading every day in in the media that cybersecurity is a huge issue in society, not just in healthcare or dentistry. I want to bring Canadian dentists and dental team up to date with major issues in cybersecurity. So, I've invited a great friend of Oasis Anne Genge who's a certified privacy and security professional to come back and answer some questions for us. So, Anne, concisely, how can I know if my data systems have been set up to be secure?

Anne Genge: Well, these days, sadly, most people don't find that out until they have a disaster. In most provinces, security threat risk assessments, that is a deep-dive analysis of the systems and the networks, are a privacy law requirement. We still find though that a lot of dental practitioners don't know that. A security threat risk analysis will do a deep-dive scan and provide a report of all the gaps and holes and vulnerabilities in your systems. And it's a great idea to have a third-party conduct this, using a software-based type scan, in order to get the best results. It's not usually best delivered by those who set up the systems because they themselves have blind spots. It's not easy to vet our own work. So, a security threat risk analysis is the easiest and most affordable quick way to get a really good view of everything that needs to be locked up and closed down in order to make the practice secure.

Dr. O'Keefe: So, I know you're going to give us some links that we'll put in the Oasis posts to go with this interview. In general, what type of an organization adopts that analysis?

Anne Genge: Well, our organization does them routinely. We conduct these on dental and medical practices. We specialize in the smaller healthcare field. There are a number of security companies that do this, but typically they're not designed to address small business type situation. So, ours really focuses on smaller healthcare practices, 20 or less computers. And, we've been able to deliver that very effectively and very affordably for about the last two and a half, three years since privacy law compliance became much bigger of a deal.

Dr. O'Keefe: So, takeaways, get the deep dive, security analysis and assessment and go with a company that's more tailored for small business and healthcare,

Anne Genge: That's going to be the most affordable and quickest way for you to get a really good idea of all the doors that need to be closed up and holes in your network.

Dr. O'Keefe: Thank you very much, Anne Genge.

Anne Genge: Thank you.