Sevocity Will No Longer Be Accessible on Computers Running the Windows 7 Operating System (OS) after January 14, 2020

Microsoft (MS) will no longer provide updates to the Windows 7 OS after January 14, 2020. <u>After this date, the Sevocity application will no longer be accessible from any computer running the Windows 7 OS.</u>

MS Windows 7 Support Schedule

Client operating systems	End of mainstream support	End of extended support
Windows 7	January 13, 2015	January 14, 2020

Security Risk

End of mainstream support means MS stops adding new features and ends complimentary support for the version of Windows. But it still provides bug fixes and patches.

End of extended support means MS no longer provides automatic fixes, updates, or technical assistance for the version of Windows.

<u>Most importantly without MS support, you will no longer receive security updates</u> that can help protect your PC from harmful viruses, spyware, and other malicious software that can steal your personal information and patient electronic protected health information (ePHI).

HIPAA Risk

The HIPAA Security Rule requires that systems with ePHI be protected with system patches and updates, which will no longer be available for MS Windows 7 as of January 14, 2020.

As stated in the US Department of Health & Human Services Office for Civil Rights June 2018 Cybersecurity Newsletter:

"Patches play an essential role in the software lifecycle as vulnerabilities are regularly discovered in software that can create risks to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data. Without patches, such vulnerabilities could not be fixed."

For further information, see:

https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/june-2018-newsletter-software-patches.pdf https://www.hipaajournal.com/hipaa-patch-management-requirements/

Questions?

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