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Dangerous FDA Device-Approval Delays?

Microsoft says older operating systems in medical and implantable devices are vulnerable to intrusion and manipulation by hackers. But patching old systems is time-consuming and expensive.

Here's the surprising problem: "It takes the medical device manufacturers so long to get the devices approved, that by the time they...get put in, often the operating systems are ancient." They're out-of-date.

Here's another surprise: Nearly 83,000 deaths are suspected from FDA-approved devices over the last ten years. Since FDA approval does not guarantee patient safety, should FDA approve devices sooner rather than later to protect against the dangers of hacking?

"Cyber Threat Hits Hospitals," Joe Carlson, Star Tribune, May 16, 2019:

<http://www.startribune.com/microsoft-takes-rare-step-in-security-patch-availability-to-prevent-ransomware-attack/509965512/>

"The FDA Will Overhaul Its Medical Device Approval Process Following Scathing Report," Alex Keown, BioSpace, November 26, 2018:

<https://www.biospace.com/article/the-fda-will-overhaul-its-medical-device-approval-process-following-scathing-report-over-safety/>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

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