



RISK ASSESSMENT EXPERTS IDENTIFY HOSPITAL SECURITY DEFICIENCIES

Reduce Exposure to Risk and Vulnerabilities

Hospitals and health care facilities in North America are trying to balance their desire for an open, friendly atmosphere with the need for a secure, safe environment for their patients, visitors and staff. This is increasingly necessary as health care staff are frequently confronted with aggressive behavior. In addition, there are growing threats related to drug use, gang activity and the theft of HIPAA data as well as personal information, leaving them more vulnerable than ever.

G4S was requested to identify potential security vulnerabilities and reduce overall risk at a children's hospital while keeping costs reasonable and maintaining a friendly environment. With the hospital's approval, G4S conducted a holistic security risk assessment of the main facility and corporate office buildings.

During the assessment, G4S found potential risks related to the deployment and use of a limited security officer force, access control, guarding of patients and the use and storage of patient information. In addition, G4S noted employees did not understand the existing workplace violence and active shooter plans in place.

G4S advised as to how the health care provider could enhance access control with minimal costs. Recommendations included re-allocating existing security personnel while adding private security officers to augment security, allowing for more efficient manning of the Security Control Center. This enables more effective early detection of security risks while continuing to maintain access control, protect guests and patients in addition to transporting visitors throughout the facility.

While reviewing the risk assessment findings, the health care provider experienced what was thought to be an active shooter situation. Fortunately, the incident was a false alarm and no active shooter situation took place. The unexpected circumstances reinforced the importance and validity of G4S' risk assessment findings, encouraging the implementation of the risk mitigation solutions suggested by G4S.

Due to the success of the risk assessment, the health care provider requested for G4S to assess 10 additional medical facilities within the state. G4S identified vulnerabilities at each facility and proceeded to design and implement cost-effective solutions to eliminate security gaps. Within the recommended solutions were improvements which would allow the facility to comply with CMS requirements for emergency plans, policies and procedures, communications plans and training / testing.



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