

Patching process

Device OS and architecture variability
Future plan: Higher patch frequency
Future plan: Standardized notification channel
Global regulatory mapping
Notification to HDO: Call
Notification to HDO: Email
Notification to HDO: Letter
Notification to HDO: Proprietary portal
Notification to HDO: Regular service meetings
Notification to HDO: Security Advisory
Notification to HDO: Security white paper
Patch delivery: Field Safety Notification
Patch delivery: Remote
Patch delivery: Service technician
Patch frequency: Field Safety Notification patch
Patch frequency: Regular update releases
Update bundling: Considerations
Update bundling: Prevalence
Validation testing

Customer (HDO) observations

Country differences
Expectations: Distrust device's security implementations
Expectations: Faster patch releases
Expectations: Higher patch frequency
Expectations: Stricter security and privacy requirements
Expectations: Variations among HDO departments
Practice: Compensating network security measures
Practice: High prevalence of legacy device use
Practice: No full patch install coverage
Update delivery considerations: Avoid functional changes
Update delivery considerations: Control update process
Update delivery considerations: Costs of updates
Update delivery considerations: Distrust towards manufacturer
Update delivery considerations: Ensure continued medical use
Update delivery preferences: Install by service technicians
Update delivery preferences: Low demand for remote install

Risk management

Mitigation: Device-level security measures
Mitigation: Mandated Use: Device Configuration
Mitigation: Mandated Use: Network security
Mitigation: Mandated Use: Physical security
Mitigation: Security Patch
Process: Internal risk level determination
Risk approach: FDA
Risk criteria: Device context of use
Risk criteria: Device network connections
Risk criteria: Exploitability
Risk criteria: Patient Safety
Tool: Central security requirements framework
Tool: SBOM
Unrealistic risk scenarios

Challenges

Customers' distrust
Customers' lack of awareness
Dispatching technicians: Coordination Costs
Evolving threat landscape
Increasing vulnerabilities
Internal negotiations for security
Regulatory pressure: Continuous validation with faster releases
Regulatory pressure: Costly validation testing
Regulatory pressure: Design lock-in
Remote update capability implementation
Short time frame for emergency patch rollout

Codebook for the interviews with product security specialists at medical device manufacturers.