# IMPLEMENTATION OF REQUIREMENTS ENGINEERING METHOD ON HANDLING PATIENT DATA

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This project report is dedicated to my family for their endless support and encouragement.

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### ABSTRACT

A personal data is information which relate to a person or individual who can be identified from those data. These information is an important resource and asset to any organization especially in healthcare system. The healthcare system data has a high level of privacy as it may contain the sensitive data as well, thus, there is a need to have personal data protection in the healthcare system. To ensure there is a personal data protection, an assessment on the personal data security has to be done. This project is adapting a requirements engineering method and addressing the problems related to the personal data security regarding patient records. The requirements engineering follows the contents of the Simple Reuse of Requirements (SIREN). There are a total of five processes in the requirements engineering method for healthcare. The requirements listed through the requirements engineering process are obtained through the personal data activities such as collection, use, disclosure, security and retention of personal data. The sources in Malaysia healthcare system includes the laws and standards enacted which are confidentiality guidelines and Personal Data Protection Act in Malaysia are followed. The survey conducted in Klang hospital showed that almost all requirements are followed, thus, it can be concluded that confidentiality of patient data in Klang hospital are assured.

### ABSTRAK

Data peribadi adalah maklumat yang berkaitan dengan seseorang atau individu yang boleh dikenal pasti daripada data tersebut. Maklumat-maklumat ini merupakan sumber dan aset yang penting kepada mana-mana organisasi terutama dalam sistem penjagaan kesihatan. Data sistem penjagaan kesihatan mempunyai tahap privasi yang tinggi kerana sistem juga mungkin mengandungi data sensitif. Oleh itu, perlindungan data peribadi dalam sistem penjagaan kesihatan adalah diperlukan. Untuk memastikan adanya perlindungan data peribadi, penilaian pada jaminan data peribadi perlu dilakukan. Projek ini menyesuaikan kaedah kejuruteraan keperluan dan menangani masalah-masalah yang berkaitan dengan jaminan data peribadi mengenai rekod pesakit. Kaedah kejuruteraan keperluan mengikuti kandungan guna semula keperluan. Terdapat lima proses dalam kaedah kejuruteraan keperluan untuk penjagaan kesihatan. Keperluan yang disenaraikan melalui proses kejuruteraan keperluan diperolehi melalui aktiviti data peribadi seperti pengumpulan, penggunaan, penzahiran, keselamatan dan pengekalan data peribadi. Sumber-sumber dalam sistem penjagaan kesihatan Malaysia yang perlu diikuti termasuklah undang-undang dan piawaian yang digubal iaitu garis panduan sulit dan rahsia dan juga Akta Perlindungan Data Peribadi di Malaysia. Kaji selidik yang telah dijalankan di Hospital Klang menunjukkan bahawa perlindungan data pesakit di hospital tersebut terjamin.

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### **CHAPTER 1**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

### 1.1 Introduction

All the governments in the world are enacting data protection laws that restrict the disclosure and handling a personal data. These laws enforce administrative and financial burdens on organizations that manage personal data and may constrain the permitted and valuable sharing and analysis of this data (Johnson and Grandison, 2007). A personal data is an information which relate to a person who can be identified from those data. These information is an important resource and asset to any organization.

Companies that gather and manage huge capacity of personal data are required by the principle of accountable data governance to take action to secure data subjects from any risks that might emerge from inappropriate uses of this data (Blocki *et al.*, 2012). Therefore, many organizations that using personal data in areas such as in Health Information System (HIS) has increasing their concerns in the right protection of these data. A HIS is an integrated and comprehensive information system designed to handle the financial, clinical and administrative aspects of a hospital (Ismail *et al.*, 2010). The aim of HIS as a medical informatics area is to attain the most potential resources of administration and patient care by electronic data processing. One of the possible solution is to ensure the protection of information of the patient by information systems audit.

Information systems audit is defined as the well-ordered procedure of collecting, categorizing and assessing the evidence to decide whether an information system secures the assets, preserves the integrity of data, fulfils the aims of the organizations efficiently and utilizes supports effectively (Martínez *et al.*, 2010). Software audit, which is a special type of audit within this field, with purpose to justify the competence of both functional and non-functional requirements.

A medical data especially should be protected, and must be ensure on its data disclosure constraint. It should be ensure that medical information can only be used in a legalised medical environment. A proper system must be complied when transmitting information across context fields, for example, a consent should be receive for medical data to be disclose and should remain anonymous before it can be used in research medium (Pasquier and Eyers, 2016).

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compromise a list of privacy requirements for protecting confidentiality and ensuring integrity of the personal data by ensuring the data only available to an authorize person only. However, to ensure the privacy requirements listed are followed, a data protection audit should be done. HIPAA has been followed by many countries, however, Malaysia does not following HIPAA. Yet, Malaysia has its own laws, regulations and also guidelines about the confidentiality and protection of personal data.

A data protection audit functions as a control tools and may determine the system weaknesses or prominence regarding the organization's managing the personal data. It is essential to determine security control for these sensitive data and its strategies to audit.

#### **1.2 Problem Background**

A personal data matter has become very important mostly in the healthcare system. The practice of medicine has been described as being overwhelmed by how well data is gathered, handled, recovered and conveyed. It is crucial to maintain the great working conditions for health experts to get to clinical information while HIS are still being evolved. The preservation of a patient confidentiality is of greatest importance in the doctor patient relationship.

The increased accessibility of health data in an electronic tools is good for industry-wide endeavour to enhance the standard and lessen the cost of healthcare, yet it leads to a related concern of large risk of privacy loss among health care participants. The medical services institutions are utilizing systems of electronic health record and patient portals to allow patients, staffs, and business associates more effective access to personal health data, however, there is a fear that the patients' privacy may not be capably protected if data managing systems are not cautiously planned and implemented (Datta *et al.*, 2011).

The US National Science Foundation-dependent Computing Research Association (CRA) has defined that the security of information systems and the protection of the end-users establish one of the significant global security-related problems (Smith and Spafford, 2004). However, regardless of existing laws regulating this aspect, a severe threat to privacy constantly take place. It is quite worrying as the patients are concern about the possibility of loss their personal information. This problem may become a serious matter if there is no solution to confront this problem.

#### **1.3 Problem Statement**

The increased availability of health data in an electronic tools is good for industry-wide efforts to enhance the quality and lessen the cost of healthcare. However, it brings a bigger concern of greater risk for loss of privacy among medical care participant. If the loss of privacy happens, it can weakens the quality of personal data especially on the patient records.

There are many algorithms and methods can be used for an assessment of personal data security. Each of the methods has their own advantages and disadvantages. Not all method are strong enough to use for a personal data security assessment.

Although various companies have described measures and controls which to do an assessment on information systems security, relatively few structured method that utilizes engineering method to handle an assessment process of information security which is as sensitive as data with ensures.

#### 1.4 Project Research Aim

The aim of the project is to identify current practices of assessment on personal data security and propose a requirements engineering method on assessment of personal data security in public hospital in Malaysia.

### 1.5 **Objectives**

The objectives of this project are:

- To identify practices or guidelines on personal data security related to the patient data.
- To implement requirements engineering method on personal data security for healthcare.
- To measure the requirements engineering method for personal data security in Klang hospital by conducting a survey and validation.

#### 1.6 Research Scope

In order to achieve the objectives, the following scopes are outlined:

- This project is focused on personal data security of patients in the public hospital. The effort highlight on providing a methods of assessment on personal data security related to the patient data.
- The project used a requirements engineering method to assess the personal data security. It includes to protect the confidentiality and the privacy of personal data.
- 3) The requirements engineering process is validated through a data collection in Klang hospital. The data collection is through a questionnaire in order to get the feedback and response based on the requirements.

#### 1.7 Research Contribution

From this project, one of the expected research contribution is that the methods and techniques related to project are analysed and the current practice of assessment on personal data security are identified. Besides, an assessment on personal data security can be adapted through a requirement engineering from this project.

Other than that, the expected contribution from this project is that the personal data audit method of this project can be applied to the public hospital in Malaysia.

### **1.8 Report Organization**

This report consists of 5 chapters:

- Chapter 1: Introduction to the research including background of project with purposes, aims and objectives, and identified problem related to it, scope of project and expected research contribution.
- Chapter 2: Contains the overview of the area of research, previous and existing trends of research.
- Chapter 3: Explanation of research methodology including the research framework, project plan and project deliverables.
- 4) Chapter 4: Design and Implementation of the project with the research requirements that will be used.
- 5) Chapter 5: Analysis and evaluation of the results and findings based on selected approach.
- Chapter 6: Conclusion of the project based on the objectives and problems statement.

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