



HEALTHCARE

REGION VÄRMLAND

HOW REGION VÄRMLAND USES LOGPOINT FOR
MEDICAL RECORD LOGGING TO PROTECT PATIENT
INTEGRITY



FACTS	
Customer	Region Värmland
Industry	Healthcare & Pharma, Hospitals
Location	Värmland, Sweden
Objectives	Medical record logging and protection of patient integrity

LOGPOINT

- Monitors and analyzes access to patient data and reduce false
- Protects patient data integrity
- Ensures compliance with the Swedish Patient Data Act



Usually SIEM is about monitoring and analyzing log data coming from the IT infrastructure such as firewalls, routers, applications, and the like. But in Region Värmland in Sweden, Logpoint is at work logging medical record views. This helps Region Värmland to better comply with patient data laws, and safeguard citizens' integrity.

BACKGROUND

Located in the western part of the country, bordering Norway, Region Värmland is one of 21 Regions in Sweden. The region is responsible for the healthcare and dental care of approx. 280.000 citizens. There are about 30 health centers in Värmland, and three hospitals are situated in the towns of Karlstad, Arvika, and Torsby across the region.

The Swedish Patient Data Act (In Swedish "Patientdata-lagen") protects the integrity of citizens by only allowing healthcare professionals who have an active care relation with the patient to access their medical records. As an example, a doctor or nurse may not access the medical records of their neighbor or spouse without a care relation. To lock down all records and provide access on a need-to-know basis is unsustainable, as it is impossible to predict what records medical professionals need to access in case of an emergency.

THE CHALLENGE

With 7,500 employees in hospitals and health care centers, the number of medical record views in Värmland quickly became unmanageable. Since the handling of medical records hadn't evolved significantly since 2006, and the data that needed to be managed from an increasing number of users and patients only grew, the old ways of working were due for an overhaul.

"Previously, we did random checks to see which record views violated the patient data act. But the cases that were discovered, were discovered by chance," says Joakim Bengtzon, IT security manager at Region Värmland.

CONTACT LOGPOINT

If you have any questions or want to learn more about Logpoint and our modern SIEM solution visit www.logpoint.com

THE SOLUTION

The solution was to use Logpoint for medical records logging, something that hadn't been done before.

"There is a lot of knowledge and best practices in IT security logging, but in the medical logging world, there was no similar system. So we had to employ a trial and error approach," says Joakim Bengtzon.

The goal is to get smart reports with flagged events pinpointed for further investigation. By tuning the system, the lists of potential violations get shorter, and the accuracy increases. "The strength of the Logpoint solution is that we don't have to spend unnecessary time on investigating false positives and that we check all logs. Not only logs chose at random. This way, we comply to the legal requirements of effective log auditing," says Joakim Bengtzon.

THE RESULTS

With Logpoint in place, Region Värmland now has a tool for producing smart reports for medical record views, where the care relation is missing. This solution is now implemented in 16 of the region's departments. Värmland also collaborates with the Jämtland, Härjedalen, and Jönköping regions, who use the same medical records system, to be able to share the experience they have had with Logpoint.

"The idea is, that we are going to be able to share the use cases with other regions to help them get started faster, and at the same time also get valuable input from them," says Joakim Bengtzon.



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Joakim Bengtzon
IT Security Manager