



Central Ohio General Surgeons (COGS) Lancaster, OH www.centralohiogeneralsurgeons.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COGS is a general surgery practice with physicians specializing in a wide range of invasive procedures ranging from surgical oncology, gallbladder removal and hernia repairs to treatment of heartburn (GERD), advanced laparoscopy and surgical endoscopy and thyroid surgery. The practice consists of three surgeons and one licensed surgical assistant – as well as nurses and support staff – serving the central Ohio region.

CHALLENGE

Rita Barnard, COGS' Office Manager, needed peace-of-mind that all of the practice's critical patient data was being properly backed-up and the disaster recovery plan implemented by her IT vendor at the time was still fully HIPAA-compliant and rock-solid secure. She believed her existing vendor was getting the job done, but figured it was better to be safe than sorry – and invited The Solutions Team to conduct a free risk assessment.

She quickly learned the backups being conducted had been failing for quite some time.

SOLUTION

The Solutions Team created a data backup and disaster recovery plan for COGS utilizing IT Vault – a proven solution popular among healthcare providers for enabling automatic and worry-free data backup and being fully HIPAA / HI-TECH compliant.

IT Vault's backup is geographically-diverse off-site across high redundancy Tier 4 commercial datacenters that deliver unprecedented connectivity, redundant bandwidth, physical security and full-time onsite engineers offering 24/7 IT support.

The Solutions Team also implemented Virtual IT – enabling them to manage COGS' entire IT infrastructure for one flat monthly fee. The Solutions Team provides a 'team' of experienced IT support personnel directly to COGS' entire staff, who now spend less time worrying about IT problems and more time caring for patients.

RESULTS

Rita now has peace-of-mind knowing COGS' critical data is secure. Each night, all critical patient data is automatically being stored across secure, remote locations. Should a catastrophic event, or even an extended power outage, occur, COGS' personnel can access EHR/EMR data from any Internet device – immediately and securely - and continue caring for patients.

Best of all, since the monthly fees for Virtual IT are significantly less than those charged by their previous IT provider, COGS is actually saving money, while receiving a superior level of full-time IT support.