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Bio-Cybersecurity in Professional Wearables: Designing Secure Medical IoT Infrastructure for Enterprise Health Monitoring

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Abstract

When it comes to gathering, evaluating, and reusing health data to support continuous monitoring and preventative treatment, the broad use of professional wearable devices in healthcare and corporate environments has been revolutionary. However, new cybersecurity threats are emerging from devices that are becoming more interdependent on the Internet of Medical Things (IoMT), and this needs immediate attention. Examining the function of bio-cybersecurity in safeguarding physiological data produced by professional wearables, this article delves into the emerging and significantly important subject of bio-cybersecurity. The document suggests a comprehensive overview of various wearable devices, their use in healthcare and occupational health settings, and the wide variety of cybersecurity threats these devices face, including data theft, illegal access, and device manipulation. Best practices for secure system design, regulatory challenges, and stakeholder contributions to developing safe medical IoT settings are suggested in this article, which is based on international regulations and realistic demonstrations of situations with associated analysis. In order to ensure that health information stays secure and anonymous, even in a diverse technology environment, the article finishes with some future solutions. These include embracing AI, blockchain, and zero-trust architectures in research on the mainstream flow.

Keywords: Bio-cybersecurity; Medical Internet of Things (IoMT); Professional wearables; Health data security; Enterprise health monitoring; Medical device encryption

1. Introduction

1.1 Background on Wearable Technology in Healthcare

The ability of both patients and medical professionals to monitor and control their health has been shaken to its core by the advent of wearable technology, which allows for the continuous and real-time assessment of physiological and behavioral data. According to Dunn et al. (2018), smart wristbands offer new possibilities for individualized healthcare in addition to measuring vital signs like heart rate, blood pressure, glucose levels, and activity patterns. Thanks to developments in sensors, wireless networks, and data analytics, the worldwide market for wearable medical devices is expected to reach around \$13 billion in 2020 (Guk et al., 2019). Enterprise health monitoring



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systems are seeing a growth in the use of wearables like these to keep tabs on workers' health, make the workplace safer, and cut costs on medical treatment. Wearable technology's potential has been enhanced with the advent of the Internet of Things (IoT). Medical Internet of Things (IoT) devices can connect to networks, store data in the cloud, and access electronic health records (EHRs), all of which allow for remote patient monitoring and data sharing via professional wearable devices (Al-Turjman et al., 2019).



Figure 1: Wearable Technology

One example is the use of wearable electrocardiogram (ECG) devices, which can improve patient outcomes by alerting healthcare personnel to arrhythmias in real-time (Sana et al., 2020). However, there are valid cybersecurity worries about the integration of wearables into healthcare systems. These devices have the ability to access sensitive information and could be used maliciously, which could lead to new cybersecurity problems.

1.2 Importance of Cybersecurity in Medical IoT

The need for strong cybersecurity solutions, particularly biocybersecurity, has grown urgent due to the widespread use of wearable technology in healthcare. Bio-cybersecurity is the practice of protecting the privacy, authenticity, and accessibility of biological and health-related data



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produced by internet of things (IoT) devices used in healthcare. Because of the wealth of personally identifiable information (PHI) that wearable devices collect—including biometric measurements, medical records, and real physiological data—they are prime targets for cybercriminals. Theft of personal information, unneeded medical procedures, or even death might result from illegal access to sensitive data or devices (Kelly et al., 2020). All the more reason to be wary because of how the medical IoT infrastructure is interdependent. There are a lot of weak spots in the system because the wearables send data to a cloud server over wireless networks. For instance, according to Yaacoub et al. (2020), health data can be intercepted or altered when attackers take advantage of vulnerabilities like unencrypted data transmission or insecure Bluetooth connections. The difficulty of securing extensive IoT ecosystems is a further obstacle for enterprise health monitoring frameworks, which aggregate data from numerous wearables used by a company. Various regulatory frameworks place stringent security standards on PHI, such as the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the US's Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). That being said, it is insufficient to adapt to the evolving threat landscape (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). Companies might lose money and face public shame if they fail to adequately secure their internet of things (IoT) devices used in healthcare, which would decrease public trust in the healthcare system and make it harder to scale wearable tracking devices. One tragic example of the fatal implications of medical systems' vulnerabilities to cybersecurity attacks is the WannaCry ransomware attack of 2017, which damaged healthcare facilities globally (Martin et al., 2017). When it comes to enterprise health monitoring, wearables are becoming more important, making bio-cybersecurity a key area to protect both patients and organizations.

1.3 Objectives and Scope of the Article

This article delves into the topic of bio-cybersecurity and professional wearables, investigating their potential applications in creating a safe medical IoT network that enables business health monitoring. This document delves into the use cases and potential risks of professional wearables. It outlines the cybersecurity risks associated with the hardware, software, and networks involved, and offers advice on how to build these devices properly while still meeting regulatory requirements. Other topics covered in the essay include an analysis of real-life case scenarios, lessons learned from past cybersecurity incidents, and predictions for the future, including the use of artificial intelligence in wearable security. This document aims to assist scientists, application developers, medical professionals, and policymakers in creating medical Internet of Things (IoT) applications that are secure, resilient, and privacy conscious. It does this by drawing on literature published prior to 2025 and, to some extent, by focusing on North American and European settings.



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2. Overview of Professional Wearables

2.1 Definition and Types of Professional Wearables

In contrast to consumer-grade devices used for general fitness tracking outside of a professional environment, professional wearables are high-tech, complex devices intended to collect, process, transmit, and report data pertaining to health in an enterprise or clinical setting. Monitoring physiological indicators and behavioral characteristics, healthcare delivery, and occupational healthcare management are all made possible by these wearables, which use sensors, wireless information transfer, and data analytics (Dunn et al., 2018). Professional wearables are an important part of the medical IoT ecosystem since they are more precise, comply with regulations, and connect to other systems in the medical or enterprise sectors (Guk et al., 2019). Most often, they are utilized by academics, healthcare experts, and businesses to monitor the health of their employees or patients, bolster clinical decisions, and encourage workplace wellness. Depending on their function, professional wearables can include a wide variety of gadgets. Listed below are the most common types: fitness trackers, smartwatches, and clinical monitoring devices.

2.1.1 Smartwatches

Smartwatches are versatile wearable devices that can monitor your vitals and do basic computing tasks. In medical settings, smartwatches can collect data from electrocardiograms (ECGs), heart rate monitors, and oxygen saturation (SpO₂) sensors (Sana et al., 2020). Devices like the Apple Watch and the Samsung Galaxy Watch have been revolutionized by medical interventions. Now, they can monitor patients remotely, identify heart problems using FDA-certified electrocardiogram testing, and even detect falls (Perez et al., 2019). Smartwatches are being used by businesses to track employees' wellness regimens, such as their activity levels and stress levels, in order to enhance their health programs on the job. While smartwatches' many uses and integration with mobile apps contribute to their widespread appeal, the lack of pinpoint accuracy they provide in some medical contexts raises concerns about their ultimate usefulness (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020).

2.1.2 Fitness Trackers

Activity levels, sleep patterns, and basic physiological data like heart rate and calorie burn can all be tracked with wearable devices. To promote employee wellness and save healthcare expenses, enterprise health monitoring is frequently done utilizing devices like Fitbit and Garmin trackers (Kelly et al., 2020). Fitness trackers play a crucial role in healthcare prevention by encouraging patients to maintain an active lifestyle and participate in rehabilitation exercises. As an example, one study found that fitness trackers can be used to monitor a patient's post-operative recovery. These devices record the patient's mobility and how well they are following their physical therapy regimen (Dunn et al., 2018). While fitness trackers are easier to use than smartwatches and do a



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good job of collecting reliable data, they do not have nearly as much power as smartwatches and can not replace real medical professionals' expertise when it comes to clinical diagnoses.

2.1.3 Clinical Monitoring Devices

In order to aid in the diagnosis process, clinical monitoring devices gather and analyze data of a medical nature. These devices are highly specialized and worn by patients. These devices are incredibly accurate in measuring and controlling chronic ailments including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and respiratory illnesses. Some examples of these include respiratory monitors, electrocardiogram patches, and continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) (Al-Turjman et al., 2019). As an example, the Dexcom G6 CGM allows for real-time diabetes management by continuously monitoring blood glucose and sending the data to medical providers (Guk et al., 2019). Corporations also use clinical monitoring equipment to keep tabs on workers who are more vulnerable to health complications, such as those who are involved in physically demanding or dangerous jobs. Devices of this kind are accurate and dependable, but they are also expensive to create and implement due to the stringent regulations that govern them (Sana et al., 2020).

2.2 Applications in Healthcare and Enterprise Settings

Due to their capabilities to gather real-time data and link to IoT ecosystems, professional wearables are finding dynamic uses in the healthcare and enterprise sectors. Wearables provide for continuous patient monitoring, personalized treatment programs, and better clinical results in the medical industry. Wearable electrocardiogram (ECG) monitors are another example that can enable cardiologists detect and track arrhythmias remotely; this, in turn, improves patient quality of life and drastically reduces hospital readmission rates (Sana et al., 2020). Another way wearables help telemedicine is by giving doctors immediate feedback, which means they may address chronically ill patients' problems at the exact moment they arise (Kelly et al., 2020). As an example, wearables can track the physical activity of an epidemic population or other relevant predictive variables, allowing for data gathering at the population level as part of an epidemiological study (Dunn et al., 2018).



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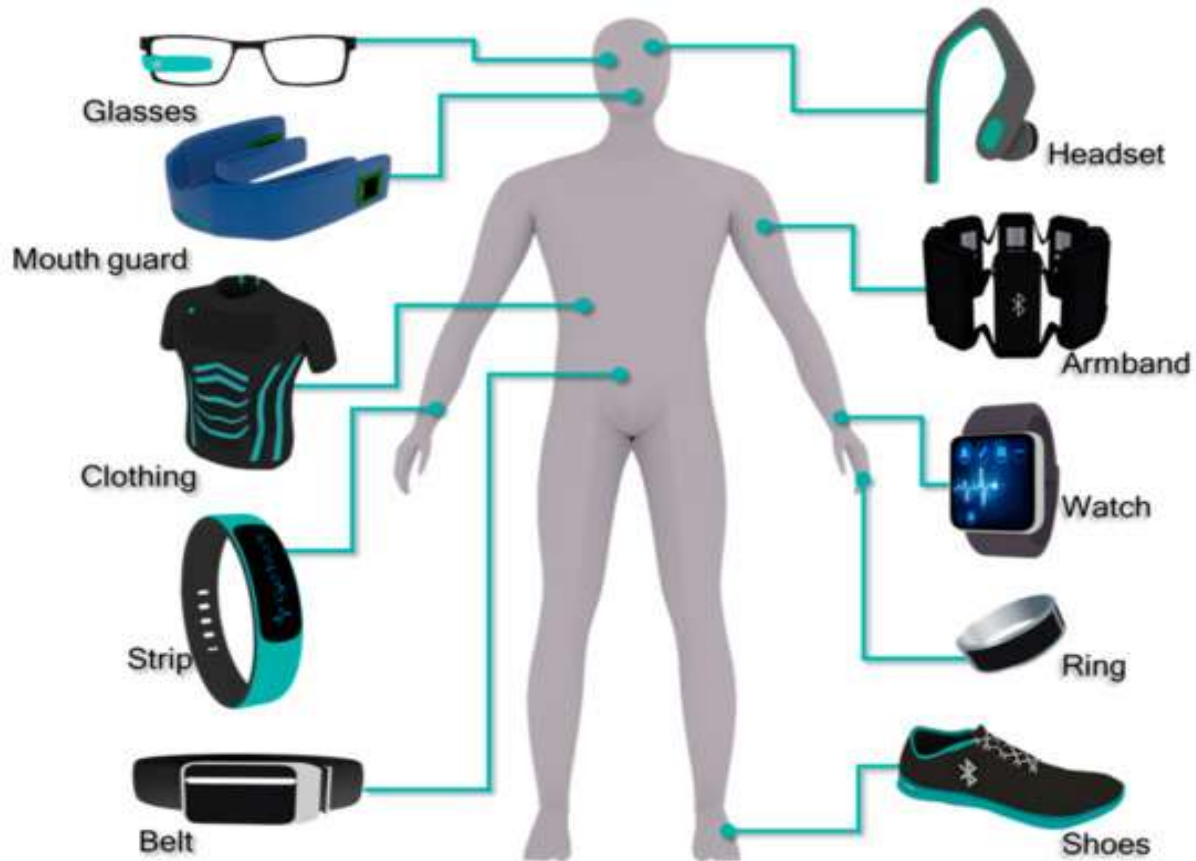


Figure 2: Wearable medical and healthcare devices designed to be worn on the body.

The primary use of professional wearables in corporate settings is to track wellness and health initiatives in the workplace. Especially in industries where workers are vulnerable to stress and exhaustion, including construction, manufacturing, and healthcare, employers can keep tabs on health data like heart rate variability and sleep quality to identify signs of stress and weariness (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). For instance, according to Al-Turjman et al. (2019), the wearable device could help employers detect when employees are experiencing heat stress from working in excessively hot environments, which could lead to a decrease in work-related accidents. Companies like BP and General Electric that used a wellness program that relied on wearable technology saw a decrease in healthcare expenditures and an increase in employee output (Perez et al., 2019). The data gathered from wearables is processed to provide the basis for workplace safety policies and insurance procedures, and it is probable that these systems will be linked into enterprise health systems. The use of wearables in enterprise health monitoring has additional



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benefits, one of which is the assistance they provide to mental health initiatives. Employers can detect employees at risk of a psychological breakdown or burnout at an early stage and implement tailored interventions with the help of devices that analyze sleep patterns and stress management strategies, including heart rate variability (Kelly et al., 2020). Additionally, wearables help healthcare organizations manage their workforce, which improves patient care by making shift scheduling more efficient and preventing clinicians from being overworked. However, there are significant cybersecurity concerns with using wearables in these settings, since the collected sensitive health data could be hacked or used without authorization, calling for the implementation of robust bio-cybersecurity measures. Interoperability between wearable devices used in healthcare and enterprise systems and other Internet of Things (IoT) infrastructure, such as electronic health record (EHR) systems and the cloud, is crucial. Sharing data is now a breeze because of all this connection, but there are new problems with keeping data safe during transmission and storage because of this (Yaacoub et al., 2020). With the proliferation of wearable devices in healthcare and wellness programs at work, there is a growing need for a secure, scalable Internet of Things (IoT) infrastructure to store vital health records.

3. The Importance of Bio-Cybersecurity

3.1 Definition of Bio-Cybersecurity

Protecting health and biological data acquired, stored, and transferred by medical IoT devices, such as professional wearables, is the primary goal of the relatively new discipline of bio-cybersecurity. It encompasses policies, procedures, and technology that work together to ensure that sensitive health information in interconnected healthcare systems is secure, intact, and always available when needed. In contrast to standard cybersecurity, which primarily deals with digital data, bio-cyber-security takes into account the interaction between cyber systems and biological information (such as electrocardiogram readings, glucose levels, or heart rates) in order to address the unique challenges posed by the time-sensitive nature of health records (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). To safeguard patients' privacy and safety in the era of rapidly expanding wearable technology, this field integrates biomedical engineering, healthcare informatics, and cybersecurity. Professional wearables, which collect physiological data in real time and link to EHR or enterprise health monitoring systems, have unique bio-cybersecurity needs. Data flows across sensors, wireless networks, and cloud servers in complex IoT systems, exposing several weak points (Al-Turjman et al., 2019). According to Kelly et al. (2020), the goal of bio-cybersecurity is to keep the medical IoT infrastructure secure and trustworthy while reducing the risks of unauthorized access, data manipulation, and device hacking.



3.2 Risks and Threats Specific to Medical IoT Devices

Because of their interconnection, sensitive data, and importance to healthcare delivery, medical IoT devices—including professional wearables—are vulnerable to a variety of cybersecurity threats. Patients' safety and confidentiality are at risk due to vulnerabilities in the devices themselves, as well as in the communication protocols and network architecture that support them. Data breaches, unauthorized access, and device tampering are the three primary dangers discussed below.

3.2.1 Data Breaches

Instances where sensitive medical data is improperly accessed, stolen, or made public as a result of wearable device misuse constitute data breaches. Cybercriminals are highly interested in cell phones and other wearables that provide personal health information (PHI), such as biometric measures and medical records, because they could be used for physical identity theft, fraud, or even dark web resale (Yaacoub et al., 2020). Take, as an example, a company-wide hack on a wearable device's cloud storage system, which might expose thousands of records' worth of patient data. Internet of Things (IoT) devices are a major contributor to the 55 percent growth in healthcare data breaches from 2015 to 2019, as they use unsecured data transfer protocols like Wi-Fi or unencrypted Bluetooth, according to a 2020 study (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). Data breaches are a major issue in bio-cybersecurity, and the risk is heightened by the lack of strong encryption or access controls in wearable devices.

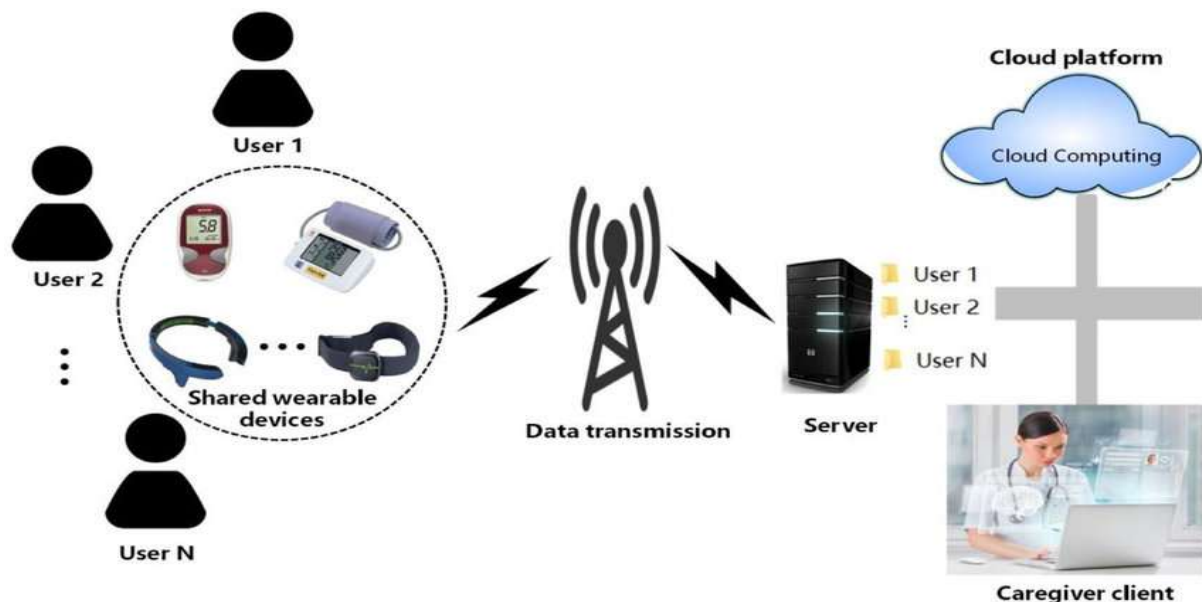


Figure 3: Typical structural framework of a wearable health monitoring system.



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3.2.2 Unauthorized Access

In order to change data or interrupt operation, an attacker needs to acquire unauthorized access to the wearable device or the systems it overlaps with. Unfortunately, hackers can easily exploit the default or poor authentication mechanisms used by most professional wearables. These schemes often use easy passwords or insecure pairing processes. An attacker may, for example, compromise a wearable electrocardiogram (ECG) monitor's user interface, alter the alarms or disable notifications, delaying crucial medical operations (Sana et al., 2020). The unauthorized disclosure of aggregated health statistics from different wearables in business settings could jeopardize employee anonymity or expose company rules about health management. Al-Turjman et al. (2019) found that many medical IoT systems have weak multi-factor authentication (MFA), which increases the risk.

3.2.3 Device Tampering

When people tamper with devices, they change them in some way, either physically or digitally, such that they no longer work as intended or can no longer record data as intended. According to Yaacoub et al. (2020), hardware vulnerabilities can be triggered by insecure firmware or malicious code that attackers use to manipulate a device's operation. A continuous glucose monitor, for instance, poses a risk to diabetic patients since it might lead to incorrect insulin dosage recommendations. The potential for tampering wearables in corporate settings poses a threat to analytics, which in turn can cause inaccurate workplace health-related policies to be implemented due to the use of inaccurate data (Kelly et al., 2020). Hackers could potentially alter devices that save lives, as was brought to light in 2019 by the discovery of a flaw in the firmware of pacemakers (Martin et al., 2017). There is a high likelihood of production or distribution tampering in the wearable supply chains due to their complexity and the number of manufacturers involved.

3.3 Consequences of Cybersecurity Failures in Healthcare

All parties involved—patients, healthcare providers, and corporations—are greatly affected when cybersecurity fails in medical IoT devices, particularly in the professional wearables category. Clinical, financial, and societal impacts all contribute to a decline in public confidence in and satisfaction with health care systems. There is a real risk that cybersecurity breaches can endanger patients in healthcare settings. One example is the potential for damage or death to a patient due to incorrect diagnoses or treatment caused by a compromised wearable device (Sana et al., 2020). As an example, in 2018, there was a story about hackers remotely adjusting dosages using Internet of Things (IoT) infusion pumps at a hospital. These incidents demonstrate how wearable medical gadgets pose a threat to human lives because of insufficient bio-cybersecurity. There are substantial monetary ramifications for healthcare organizations and businesses as a result of



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cybersecurity breaches. An average of \$7.13 million was estimated to be spent in 2020 on healthcare data breaches due to regulatory penalties, litigation fees, and system repair costs (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). In addition to financial loss penalties associated with non-compliance with standards, regulatory penalties arising from non-adherence to regulations like HIPAA or GDPR amplify the problem (Martin et al., 2017). When people lose faith in healthcare systems and wearable tech, it affects society as a whole. Businesses may face resistance from employees regarding the use of wellness programs that incorporate wearable technology, which can diminish the advantages. Patients' fears of data theft, manipulation, or abuse of devices to generate manipulated results can discourage their use of wearables, which in turn can impede the adoption of technologies that improve health outcomes (Kelly et al., 2020).

Concerns about the stability of healthcare ecosystems, delays in treatment, and increased anxiety among residents can be heightened by failing to guarantee cybersecurity, as shown in reports of large-scale breaches such as the WannaCry ransomware outbreak of 2017 that affected healthcare services globally (Martin et al., 2017). A multi-faceted approach based on bio-cybersecurity measures such as safe design, strong authentication, and regulatory compliance is necessary to combat such threats. In the next chapters, we will go over these tactics and explain their basic notion in terms of how important it is to have a strong medical IoT infrastructure that can protect patient safety and sensitive health data.

4. Security Challenges in Medical IoT Infrastructure

4.1 Vulnerabilities in Wearable Devices

Professional wearables inside the medical IoT framework are susceptible to multiple dangers owing to their diminutive stature, restricted resources, and incorporation into intricate networks. Cyberattacks, data breaches, and subpar device performance are all possible outcomes of these flaws, which affect both software and hardware (Bhattacharya et al., 2021). Enterprises' usage of medical IoT systems for health monitoring necessitates fixing these vulnerabilities.



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Key Challenges in Wearable Technology

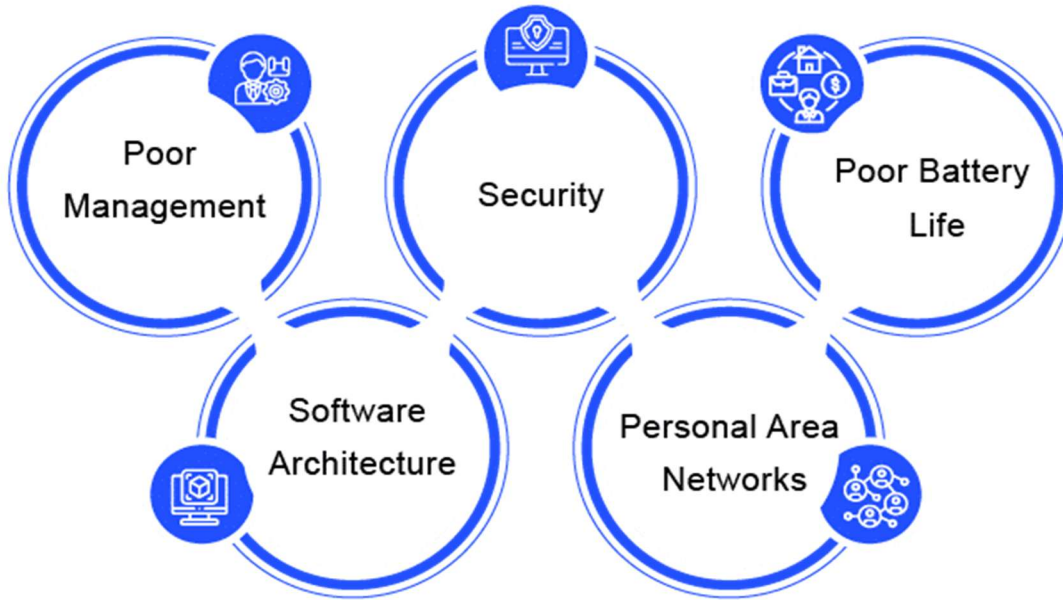


Figure 4: Challenges in wearable technology

4.1.1 Hardware Vulnerabilities

Physical design constraints and supply chain concerns cause wearable device hardware vulnerabilities. In an effort to enhance portability and minimize price, several wearables have been created with minimal computing power and memory, however this often means they can not take adequate security measures (Yaacoub et al., 2020). Computers that incorporate technology used in ECG patches or continuous glucose monitors, for instance, may supply microcontrollers and sensors that lack built-in encryption techniques, leaving them open to physical manipulation or reverse engineering (Al-Turjman et al., 2020). The fact that several suppliers manufacture these components of the supply chain increases the likelihood that they may be contaminated, adding another layer of complexity to the already substantial risks involved. According to research published in 2019, some medical devices were implanted with malicious software during production, giving an attacker the ability to remotely manipulate the devices (Martin et al., 2017). Secondly, government agencies and other bad actors can target wearables with insecure communication modules, such as old Bluetooth chips, and intercept or tamper with data, which drastically harms patient safety.



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4.1.2 Software Vulnerabilities

A number of problems can affect wearable software, such as using outdated firmware, poor development, and insufficient patch management. Their many work wearables are susceptible to buffer overflow and code injection attacks because they use lightweight operating systems that put an emphasis on security functions (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). For instance, a study of fitness trackers for wearables that came out in 2020 found that some of the devices did not check for firmware updates, which meant that an attacker may have installed malware (Yaacoub et al., 2020). There is a lack of wearables on the market, which slows down software updates because the devices might not be able to handle the number of patches needed. Businesses are more likely to be attacked if they are slow to fix known issues. This is particularly true when numerous devices in a company are connected, which increases the potential effect of breaches (Bhattacharya et al., 2021).

4.2 Network Security Issues

Network security becomes a major concern when medical IoT devices exchange data in real-time. Many entry points for malevolent actors are introduced when commercial wearables transmit and disseminate health data over wireless standards and cloud infrastructure (Kelly et al., 2020). Enterprise health monitoring systems are particularly vulnerable to these kinds of issues due to the high stakes involved in the enormous data aggregation that occurs there.

4.2.1 Data Transmission Risks

Data transmission risks occur the transmission of sensitive health information from wearable devices to other platforms, such electronic health record systems or corporate servers, through unsecured connection methods. Many wearables use protocols like Wi-Fi or Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE), which can be vulnerable to man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks if not secured properly (Yaacoub et al., 2020). Nearly two-thirds of the medical IoT devices studied did not have enough encryption while transmitting data, which could have exposed sensitive health information to prying eyes (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). If intercepted, the accumulated health data broadcast by wearables in the workplace can compromise the privacy of multiple individuals. To further complicate matters, not all wearable manufacturers use the same encryption methods; thus, byte-level bio-cybersecurity measures are required.

4.2.2 Cloud Storage Vulnerabilities

Nevertheless, cloud storage poses vulnerabilities due to inadequate encryption, poor access control, and misconfiguration, as it is the primary component of medical IoT architecture. According to Al-Turjman et al. (2020), professional wearables are often targeted by cyberattacks because they rely on cloud solutions to store and analyze massive amounts of health data. A data



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breach in 2019 exposed the personal information of over 20 million patients, illustrating the dire repercussions of keeping all medical records in one single database (Martin et al., 2017). There might be legal and reputational ramifications if cloud vulnerabilities in organizational health monitoring led to the unauthorized leaking of sensitive employee data. Data breaches are also more likely to occur because not all cloud providers that handle medical IoT systems employ end-to-end encryption or offer multi-factor authentication (Bhattacharya et al., 2021). The usage of third-party cloud services also makes accountability difficult and increases the chance that organizations may not have complete control over security settings.

4.3 Regulatory and Compliance Challenges

The usage of professional wearables in medical IoT infrastructure is linked to stringent regulatory systems, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the EU and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) in the US. Nevertheless, there are significant obstacles to overcome due to the complexity of IoT ecosystems and the rapid advancement of wearable technology, which makes compliance with these standards extremely difficult (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). When applied to business settings, these problems become even more complex, as wearable devices must meet privacy and security standards while also adhering to health monitoring principles. Ensuring compliance with heterogeneous devices and vendors is a critical challenge. According to Kelly et al. (2020), the majority of wearable devices do not adhere to data security regulations, and their focus is mostly on certain features and price points. For instance, HIPAA mandates the storage and retrieval of encrypted protected health information (PHI).

Contrarily, the majority of wearables do not have the computational capacity to execute the necessary encryption methods (Bhattacharya et al., 2021). The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) places stringent criteria on data minimization and user consent; yet, wearable devices pose a threat to these regulations since they collect excessive amounts of data or employ implicit methods to obtain it (Martin et al., 2017). The second difficulty is that different countries have different sets of rules. Companies with international operations face an even more daunting challenge: meeting the often-contradictory requirements of various regulations, such as the different reporting deadlines for data breaches imposed by HIPAA and GDPR (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). Particularly for international corporations that deploy wearables to track the health of their staff, compliance becomes an even more arduous task due to the absence of a unified worldwide standard for preserving the security of medical IoT.

As an example, assaults on wearables powered by artificial intelligence are just one example of how regulations tend to follow technological developments, creating gaps between needs and new



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dangers (Al-Turjman et al., 2020). Finally, healthcare suppliers and organizations may find the continual examinations and audits necessary for continued management to maintain compliance to be too burdensome. When worn devices are integrated with compliance programs, they can be put into place quickly. However, the former is often done first, which increases the likelihood that the latter will not be followed and causes its consequences to kick in (Kelly et al., 2020). Establishing the legitimacy of medical IoT infrastructure and ensuring the professional integration of wearables require the resolution of these regulatory challenges.

5. Designing a Secure Medical IoT Infrastructure

5.1 Best Practices for Secure Design

Proactively addressing the new design issue of medical Internet of Things (IoT) infrastructure is necessary to mitigate vulnerabilities that could be used to compromise sensitive health information. The goal of best practices in establishing data protection and authentication processes is to make sure that IoT ecosystems can withstand outside interference (Bhattacharya et al., 2021). On top of that, constant maintenance is essential. In order to build trust in businesses' health monitoring systems and guarantee patient safety, such procedures are essential.

5.1.1 Data Encryption and Protection

Encryption is the foundation of biocybersecurity because it guarantees the safe and private transfer and storage of protected health information (PHI) in wearables. When information is in transit or at rest, it should be encrypted using a standard like AES-256 to prevent interception even when using wireless connections (e.g., Bluetooth or Wi-Fi) (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). Wearable devices and the destination device (such as a cloud server or EHR system) both encrypt data to lessen the danger of a man-in-the-middle attack (Yaacoub et al., 2020). To further lessen the blow of any breaches, data protection principles also call for pseudonymizing or anonymizing PHI. Secure key storage or periodic key rotation is essential for a secure environment, as highlighted in a 2020 study by Al-Turjman et al. (2020). Proper key management goes beyond encryption.

5.1.2 Secure Authentication Methods

To prevent unauthorized access to wearable devices and the systems that support them, highly secure authentication methods must be used. By requiring an additional layer of verification, multi-factor authentication (MFA) systems greatly improve security (Bhattacharya et al., 2021). MFA systems often use a mix of factors, including passwords, biometrics, and one-time codes. To access the interface of a wearable electrocardiogram (ECG) equipment, for instance, the user may be asked to scan their fingerprints and input a unique PIN code. In order to ensure that only trusted devices are able to connect inside the IoT ecosystem, device-to-device authentication methods such as certificate-based ones certify the device (Kelly et al., 2020). Secure Simple Pairing (SSP)



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and other Bluetooth-enabled device pairing protocols greatly lessen the possibility of rogue connections. Another proof of the need for standardized multi-factor authentication techniques is a 2019 study that indicated 60% of medical IoT devices were not secure in authentication (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020).

5.1.3 Regular Software Updates and Patch Management

In order to fix vulnerabilities in wearable devices' firmware and applications, software patches and updates need to be applied often. In order to update devices automatically without affecting their functionality, manufacturers should prioritize wearables with limited resources (Yaacoub et al., 2020). To prevent malicious code injections, cryptographically signed over-the-air (OTA) updates ensure that only legitimate updates are installed (Al-Turjman et al., 2020). Companies and healthcare providers should institute a patch management program to ensure that all devices are automatically updated. The vital necessity of patch deployment was highlighted in a 2017 study on medical device security, which indicated that 70 percent of the exploitation vulnerabilities in IoT systems were caused by delayed updates (Martin et al., 2017).

5.2 Frameworks and Standards for Bio-Cybersecurity

Building a safe medical IoT infrastructure requires adhering to established cybersecurity frameworks and standards. To guarantee compliance with rules and best practices in the sector, these frameworks give structured directions on how to identify, protect, and handle hazards.

5.2.1 NIST Cybersecurity Framework

To address the cybersecurity threats associated with medical IoT devices, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has developed the Cybersecurity Framework. The five core roles of the architecture offer a clear way to secure wearables: identify, protect, detect, respond, and recover (NIST, 2018). Take the "identify" feature, which lets businesses assess their wearable computing devices for security risks, and compare it to the "protect" feature, which emphasizes authentication and encryption. Incident response plans, developed using the NIST architecture, allow for the quick correction of breaches in an enterprise's health monitoring process (Bhattacharya et al., 2021). Based on a study conducted in 2020, businesses who have implemented the NIST framework have seen a 30% decrease in cybersecurity assaults when compared to those that have not. Its adaptability makes it a good fit for businesses and medical professionals who are looking to purchase wearable technology.

5.2.2 ISO/IEC Standards

However, the International Electrotechnical Committee (IEC) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) have developed specific ISO standards for medical device risk management and information security, respectively, with the release of ISO/IEC 80001-1 and



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ISO/IEC 27001. To guarantee the safety of wearable data, an Information Security Management System (ISMS) must be put in place according to the guidelines laid down by ISO/IEC 27001, which are based on previous audits, risk assessments, and established policies (ISO/IEC, 2013). With an emphasis on the security of their lifecycle, from design to decommissioning, the ISO/IEC 80001-1 standard addresses medical-IT networks (also known as IT networks and the Internet of Things) from a risk management perspective (ISO/IEC, 2010). The standards provide practical advice on compliance and are thus particularly relevant to the prospect of protecting PHI in order to satisfy the demands of laws like HIPAA and GDPR (Kelly et al., 2020). Businesses can more effectively standardize security processes by using these standards to regularize security across different wearable implementations.

5.3 Role of Stakeholders in Security Design

Because everyone has a part to play in creating and keeping secure medical IoT infrastructure, it is important that manufacturers, healthcare facilities, and patients work together to support bio-cybersecurity.

5.3.1 Manufacturers

The onus for ensuring the safety of their professional wearables will fall on the makers. Incorporating trusted platform modules (TPMs) and other hardware security functions, as well as creating secure firmware with built-in authentication and encryption capabilities, are necessary for this (Yaacoub et al., 2020). In addition to testing the security on a regular basis to find vulnerabilities before deployment, manufacturers should follow standards like ISO/IEC 27001. Researchers in 2019 found that manufacturers' use of secure-by-design approaches cut device vulnerabilities in half (Martin et al., 2017). Healthcare providers and companies can further guarantee the device's security during operation by enabling over-the-air update features and ensuring documented follow-through.

5.3.2 Healthcare Providers

Secure Internet of Things (IoT) infrastructure implementation and enforcement will be spearheaded by healthcare providers. According to Kelly et al. (2020), organizations must integrate secure electronic health record systems with wearable technology, implement access controls, and educate staff on cybersecurity best practices. Additionally, providers should routinely audit their systems to detect security flaws in data transmission and storage and to guarantee compliance with HIPAA and GDPR. To reduce the likelihood of a security attack, the hospital can implement network segmentation to isolate Internet of Things (IoT) traffic (Bhattacharya et al., 2021). Ensuring the safe existence of an ecosystem requires its cooperation with manufacturers to implement priorities like updating and incident response planning.



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5.3.3 Patients

Patients can play an important role in keeping their professional wearables secure by simply following best practices, such as using strong passwords or enabling multi-factor authentication (MFA) where it is relevant to them. Especially when it comes to wearables used for chronic disease management, it is crucial to educate patients about the risks of device sharing and the implications of improper update installation (Hathaliya & Tanwar, 2020). Companies should educate their workers on how to utilize wearables for health monitoring and how to spot suspicious activity, such as phishing attempts or unusual device behavior. Al-Turjman et al. (2020) found that patient awareness initiatives prevented security breaches in healthcare IoT systems by 25% due to misuse. One way to make medical IoT systems more resilient is to involve patients in the security measures.

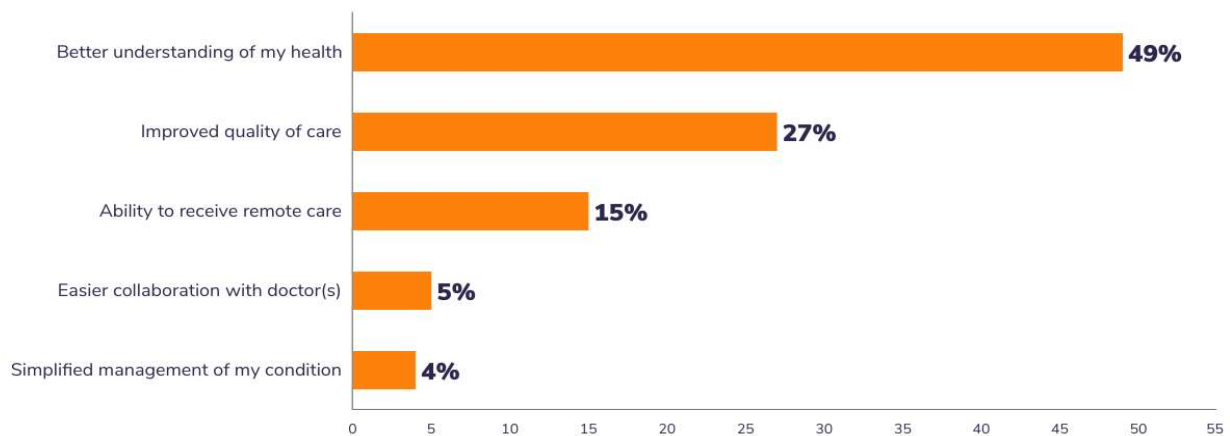
6. Case Studies

One way that strong cybersecurity measures can improve the security of sensitive health data in hybrid and enterprise settings is by introducing secure wearable solutions to the healthcare industry. The Medtronic Guardian Connect continuous glucose monitor device and the Philips Biosensor BX100 are two examples of effective applications of this technology. Featuring elliptic-curve cryptography and over-the-air (OTA) updates, both devices also had multiple-factor authentication and enhanced encryption (ZAES-256). Along with ongoing collaboration between cybersecurity experts and healthcare staff to guarantee secure operation and user education, these systems were subject to regulatory compliance, which included HIPAA and GDPR. They show that when it comes to wearables, user awareness, preventative maintenance, and secure-by-design principles are crucial.

However, the consequences of security carelessness are revealed by two major cybersecurity incidents. Automatic upgrades, network separation, and incident mitigation techniques should be implemented to address the issue of insufficient systems, as demonstrated by the WannaCry ransomware of 2017 that disabled medical equipment connected to the Internet of Things (IoT). Similarly, the 2018 Medtronic pacemaker incident brought attention to the dangers of medical IoT devices' wireless interfaces not being encrypted, which prompted an urgent firmware upgrade and a reevaluation of supply chain security standards. Both incidents show how important it is to encrypt data, apply patches quickly, use encrypted communication channels, and encourage cross-sector collaboration in order to control the spread of security breaches in the wearable tech ecosystem and keep patients safe.



Benefits of medical wearables (according to patients)



Source: Software Advice's 2022 Patient Wearables Survey
Q: In your opinion, what has been the biggest benefit of your prescribed wearable health device?
n: 476

Software Advice.

Figure 5: Benefits of medical wearable (according to patients)

7. Future Directions

Edge computing, network integration, and sensor technology could revolutionize healthcare wearable security in the future, but they also necessitate more robust and flexible cybersecurity measures. Health data generated by fifth-generation gadgets and other high-tech sensors is becoming more complicated and should be protected and stored safely. Meanwhile, edge computing has improved processing in real-time and tackled localized security risks. These dangers necessitate strong authentication and the ability for systems to use the same frameworks across different interoperable platforms. Anomaly detection, dynamic authentication, and predictive maintenance are some of the ways that bio-cybersecurity makes use of AI and ML. With the use of ML, we may employ biometrics to validate identities and continuously streamline encryption; an intrusion detection system based on AI can spot unusual trends in wearable data. Along with improving security, these tools boost efficiency and make things easier for the user. Data poisoning and hostile AI model adversaries necessitate extra vigilance in governance and model verification. In order to improve the security and integrity of data, bio-cybersecurity is anticipated to include blockchain technology and zero-trust designs in the future. The development of regulations aimed at establishing higher standards in the medical Internet of Things will



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prioritize the adoption of secure-by-design concepts by manufacturers. Users must be trained to deal with new dangers, which affects both patients and medical personnel. However, it is probable that the convergence of technology, legislation, and awareness will reveal the future of secure professional wearable ecosystems in both the workplace and clinical settings.

Conclusion

The cybersecurity status of professional wearables is a key factor in determining the level of safety, reliability, and performance as they are integrated into medical practices and wellness initiatives within enterprises. According to the paper, bio-cybersecurity is becoming an absolute must when developing and deploying medical IoT. Severe clinical and financial repercussions could result from the compromise and manipulation of health data stored in susceptible wearable hardware, software, and networks. Technical protections like encryption, secure authentication, and patch management, together with compliance with regulatory requirements like HIPAA or GDPR, are essential to address these challenges. A culture of cyber awareness and the concepts of secure-by-design must be actively fostered by all parties involved, including users, healthcare professionals, and manufacturers. Combining AI for real-time threat detection, edge computing for secure data in a real-time environment, and blockchain for data integrity can boost future wearable security. Policy and practice should center on bio-cybersecurity to make sure professional wearables can deliver on their transformative promises and pave the way for health monitoring infrastructures that are safe, ethical, and sustainable.

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