

2020 Spotlight Report on Healthcare

Executive summary

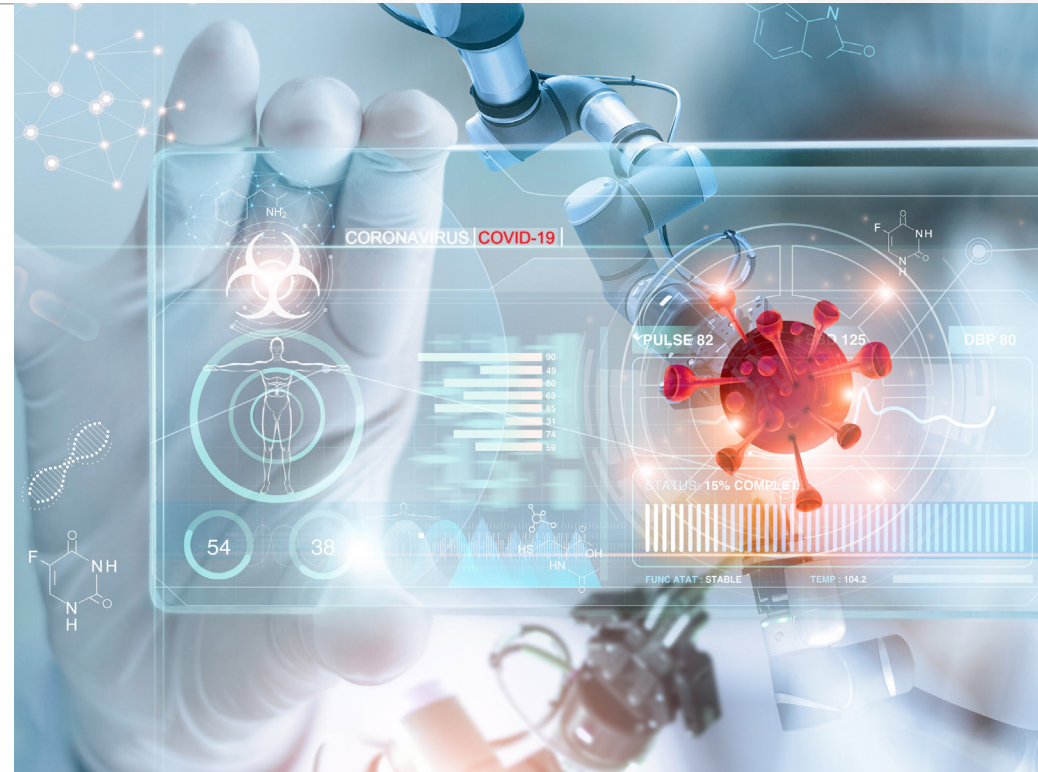
The COVID-19 pandemic is spurring adoption of cloud services across all industries as they pivot rapidly to support remote work and collaboration. This is particularly true for healthcare providers at the front line as they leverage remote access and cloud analytics to scale operations.

The long-term impact for healthcare providers is likely to be profound – leaving business leaders and security professionals tasked with protecting an attack surface that to date has been uncharted.

Some areas of influence in healthcare are obvious, such as the acceleration of digital transformation, which changes how organizations operate and provide patient care. There is also increased demand for cloud computing, which provides most of the foundation, tools and infrastructure to fuel this digital transformation.

The main healthcare challenges during COVID-19 have been the provision of clinical care and attempts to control the pandemic. As infection rates spike, remote access and timely collaboration between clinical administrators, healthcare professionals and researchers is paramount. Scalability and redundancy offered by the cloud are vital in supporting this effort. This trend will likely persist post-pandemic as remote work continues to increase.

Yet, while the use of cloud computing to optimize resources in the healthcare sector has great potential, there are also risks. This is especially true when cloud adoption happens faster than proper due diligence can be applied by information security.



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