

CASE STUDY

Children's Medical Center Uses Komprise to Deliver Visibility & Classification for ePHI Data

Overview

Children's Medical Center Dallas is a major pediatric system featuring a 496-bed main campus with a new \$5 billion, 552-bed facility underway. Every year, Children's Medical Center Dallas receives more than 500,000 patient visits ranging from simple eye exams to specialized treatment in areas such as heart disease, hematology-oncology, organ transplantation and cystic fibrosis and nearly 16,000 surgeries. The organization has seen 2x growth in patient visits across the Dallas and Plano Facilities since 2022.

Unstructured Data Management Challenges

While managing rapidly growing data across its Isilon and Qumulo environments, the organization needed deeper analytics and understanding of its file data for right-placing and cost savings opportunities. Yet a larger issue was brewing that soon became the preeminent focus for IT. Children's Security team was coming up against a deadline for a HIPAA compliance audit, a critical requirement in healthcare.

Between 2009 and 2025, 7,357 healthcare data breaches affecting 500 or more individuals **were reported to the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)**. Those breaches have resulted in the exposure or impermissible disclosure of the protected health information of 935,521,931 individuals.

Children's needed to show where all ePHI was located and that this data was being handled according to



Key Stats

Industry: Healthcare

Storage: Dell Isilon (PowerScale), Qumulo

Use Cases: Advanced data classification, sensitive data detection

Results: Scanned more than 2B files and tagged 36.6M as ePHI.

HIPAA rules for patient privacy and confidentiality, a high burden for most healthcare security organizations.

More generally, privacy and compliance officers needed visibility into where the health systems' data was at all times, who's consuming it and who's sharing it. An average 2.11 documents are created daily per employee, containing ePHI.

Common enterprise security solutions were prohibitively expensive and had a large impact on IT operations. The security group wanted a simpler, easier to manage solution for sensitive data visibility and mitigation across a large unstructured data estate.



"We're trying to make sure that we adhere to HIPAA level guidelines and most importantly that we provide a really great patient experience so that the parents know that they're getting the absolute best grade A patient care possible for their children."



Stephen Clark

Director of Information Security at Children's.



Komprise Use Cases

- Komprise, leveraging its **Smart Data Workflows technology**, initially scanned for standard PII elements including date of birth, email addresses, phone numbers, and social security numbers.
- Next, **Komprise searched for medical record numbers (MRNs)** and detection of all 18 EPHI data elements defined by The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- Komprise will scan using the same parameters for any new or changed files over time, to ensure that Children's can maintain the highest level of **patient confidentiality and privacy** that its care population has come to expect.
- Children's is also in the process of using **Komprise intelligent tiering** across its multi-petabyte data estate, now that IT has gained detailed insight across all unstructured data to understand aging data and opportunities to reduce primary storage capacity.

Benefits

Komprise has delivered automated data classification, observability and monitoring capabilities so that Children's can provide assurance to outside auditors as well as internal stakeholders that confidential patient data is handled with care and according to state and federal laws.



Over 10 weeks, **Komprise Smart Data Workflows** scanned more than **2 billion files across 20+ file shares**, identifying and tagging 36.6M files as ePHI.



The PII detection program helped Children's successfully pass their recent security audit, using the searchable **Komprise Global Metadatabase** showing where all ePHI is being stored.



Komprise engineers worked with the Children's team to add dedicated Komprise Observer virtual machines for scanning to improve performance and accuracy across the 1.2 PB of data stored on older, legacy Isilon storage.



The partnership with Komprise is creating additional opportunities to bolster security, with plans to integrate Komprise with Children's existing data loss prevention (DLP) tools.



Komprise has now created a safe, compliant data foundation which can support ongoing, **intelligent data tiering from on-premises Isilon and Qumulo shares to low-cost cloud object storage**, while keeping sensitive data on-premises in encrypted storage.

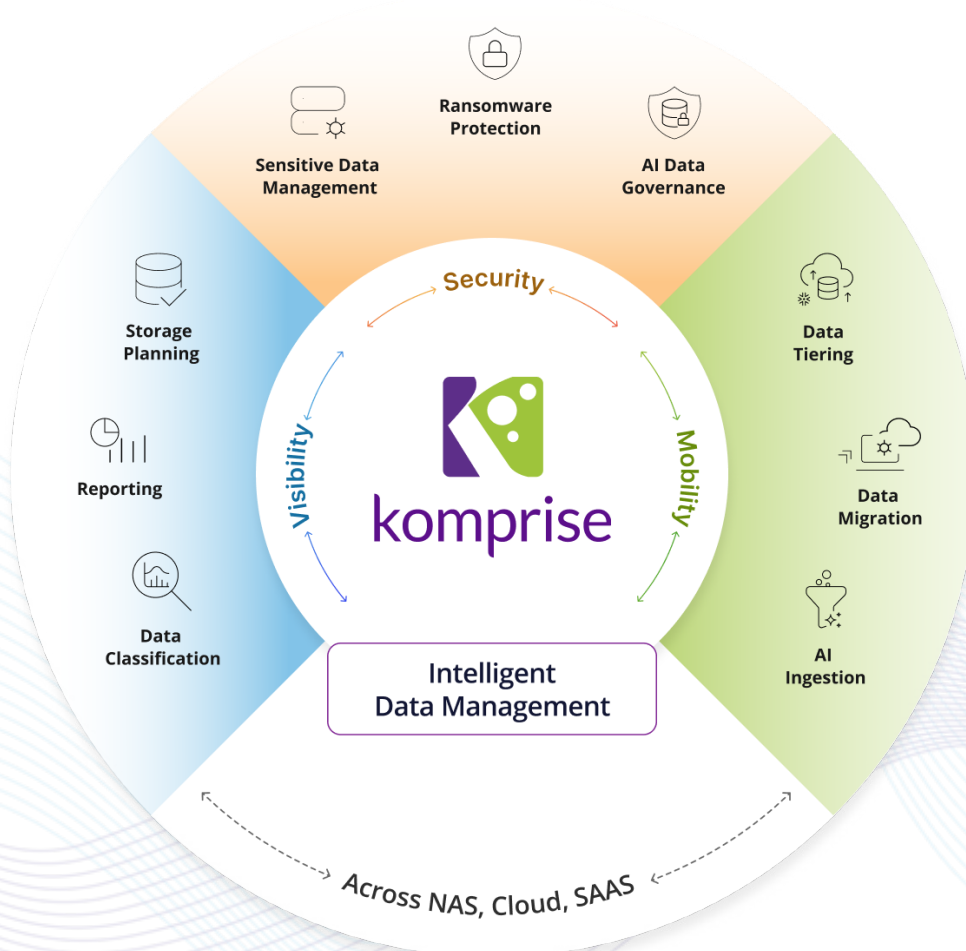


Additionally, Clark says he **plans to adapt Komprise to monitor PCI (Payment Card Industry) and GLBA (Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act) data** to support the needs of Children's finance, accounting and building teams and their auditors.





With Komprise, we can not only quantify where all of our EPHI is in our data centers, but we can state specifically who's consuming, creating and storing that EPHI, which most hospitals today can't do," Clark said. "It's lightweight and easy to use to provide visibility to our privacy officer, compliance officer, legal and HR teams who are interested in not only external breaches but insider risk."



About Komprise

Komprise connects unstructured data management with AI through a unified platform. With Komprise Intelligent Data Management, enterprise IT can easily analyze, migrate, transparently tier and manage the lifecycle of petabytes of file and object data across hybrid environments. Organizations gain full visibility across silos to optimize storage, backup, ransomware and cloud costs. Komprise Smart Data Workflows and the Komprise Global Metadatabase unlock rich unstructured data context and governed access for AI. www.komprise.com

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