Information is considered an important asset beside personnel. Information enables the management of any company to make decisions. Without adequate information, decision making is generally affected. Procedures and infrastructure must be implemented to support this information. These procedures can be used to optimize the use of information and enable accurate decision making. Toward these course decision support systems (DSS) and expert systems (ES) are good examples of how information systems can be used in management capacity in any field including health care. Using these systems optimizes the decision making process. Since these systems have inherent procedures that produce information, this information is considered as a critical asset for that particular company and must be well managed (Wager, Lee, & Glaser, 2009).

The greatest risk is the loss or theft of such information. This can hinder the organization from growing. Worse still this information can get into the possession of the company competitor in which case the affected company may lose its competitive advantage. Therefore, information as an important asset required by the organization requires procedures and policies in place to define the way to manage the information. Once such policies like the data protection act 1998 that highlights the requirements that govern personal data storage, use and dissemination have been implemented, the company can minimize on the risk of breach of confidentiality.

The management of information systems requires a well defined data and information management policy that should cover the risks and mitigation procedures related to information loss (Wager, Lee, & Glaser, 2009). An organization’s leadership must play an active role as major stakeholders in any information management implementation project. The success of any information system project and especially health care information systems depends on the company’s leadership (Wager, Lee, & Glaser, 2009). It is most practical therefore to consider the organization’s leadership as main stakeholders in the health care information systems implementation process.

Reference: