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Palo Alto Networks XDR-Analyst Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Analysis: This domain encompasses querying data with XQL language, utilizing query templates and libraries, working with lookup tables, hunting for IOCs, using Cortex XDR dashboards, and understanding data retention and Host Insights.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alerting and Detection Processes: This domain covers identifying alert types and sources, prioritizing alerts through scoring and custom configurations, creating incidents, and grouping alerts with data stitching techniques.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This domain addresses managing endpoint prevention profiles and policies, validating agent operational states, and assessing the impact of agent versions and content updates.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Endpoint Security Management:
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incident Handling and Response: This domain focuses on investigating alerts using forensics, causality chains and timelines, analyzing security incidents, executing response actions including automated remediation, and managing exclusions.

XDR-Analyst Test Questions Fee & Valid XDR-Analyst Exam Syllabus

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Palo Alto Networks XDR Analyst Sample Questions (Q61-Q66):

NEW QUESTION # 61

What is by far the most common tactic used by ransomware to shut down a victim's operation?

- A. restricting access to administrative accounts to the victim
- B. denying traffic out of the victims network until payment is received
- C. encrypting certain files to prevent access by the victim
- D. preventing the victim from being able to access APIs to cripple infrastructure

Answer: C

Explanation:

Ransomware is a type of malicious software, or malware, that encrypts certain files or data on the victim's system or network and prevents them from accessing their data until they pay a ransom. This is by far the most common tactic used by ransomware to shut down a victim's operation, as it can cause costly disruptions, data loss, and reputational damage. Ransomware can affect individual users, businesses, and organizations of all kinds. Ransomware can spread through various methods, such as phishing emails, malicious attachments, compromised websites, or network vulnerabilities. Some ransomware variants can also self-propagate and infect other devices or networks. Ransomware authors typically demand payment in cryptocurrency or other untraceable methods, and may threaten to delete or expose the encrypted data if the ransom is not paid within a certain time frame. However, paying the ransom does not guarantee that the files will be decrypted or that the attackers will not target the victim again. Therefore, the best way to protect against ransomware is to prevent infection in the first place, and to have a backup of the data in case of an attack.¹²³⁴ Reference:

What is Ransomware? | How to Protect Against Ransomware in 2023

Ransomware - Wikipedia

What is ransomware? | Ransomware meaning | Cloudflare

[What Is Ransomware? | Ransomware.org]

[Ransomware - FBI]

NEW QUESTION # 62

What are two purposes of "Respond to Malicious Causality Chains" in a Cortex XDR Windows Malware profile? (Choose two.)

- A. Automatically block the IP addresses involved in malicious traffic.
- B. Automatically close the connections involved in malicious traffic.
- C. Automatically terminate the threads involved in malicious activity.
- D. Automatically kill the processes involved in malicious activity.

Answer: A,D

Explanation:

The "Respond to Malicious Causality Chains" feature in a Cortex XDR Windows Malware profile allows the agent to take automatic actions against network connections and processes that are involved in malicious activity on the endpoint. The feature has two modes: Block IP Address and Kill Process¹.

The two purposes of "Respond to Malicious Causality Chains" in a Cortex XDR Windows Malware profile are:

Automatically kill the processes involved in malicious activity. This can help to stop the malware from spreading or doing any further damage.

Automatically block the IP addresses involved in malicious traffic. This can help to prevent the malware from communicating with its command and control server or other malicious hosts.

The other two options, automatically close the connections involved in malicious traffic and automatically terminate the threads involved in malicious activity, are not specific to "Respond to Malicious Causality Chains". They are general security measures that

the agent can perform regardless of the feature.

Reference:

Cortex XDR Agent Security Profiles

Cortex XDR Agent 7.5 Release Notes

PCDRA: What are purposes of "Respond to Malicious Causality Chains" in ...

NEW QUESTION # 63

Which of the following represents the correct relation of alerts to incidents?

- A. Alerts that occur within a three-hour time frame are grouped together into one Incident.
- **B. Alerts with same causality chains that occur within a given time frame are grouped together into an Incident.**
- C. Every alert creates a new Incident.
- D. Only alerts with the same host are grouped together into one Incident in a given time frame.

Answer: B

Explanation:

The correct relation of alerts to incidents is that alerts with same causality chains that occur within a given time frame are grouped together into an incident. A causality chain is a sequence of events that are related to the same malicious activity, such as a malware infection, a lateral movement, or a data exfiltration. Cortex XDR uses a set of rules that take into account different attributes of the alerts, such as the alert source, type, and time period, to determine if they belong to the same causality chain. By grouping related alerts into incidents, Cortex XDR reduces the number of individual events to review and provides a complete picture of the attack with rich investigative details¹.

Option A is incorrect, because alerts with the same host are not necessarily grouped together into one incident in a given time frame. Alerts with the same host may belong to different causality chains, or may be unrelated to any malicious activity. For example, if a host has a malware infection and a network anomaly, these alerts may not be grouped into the same incident, unless they are part of the same attack.

Option B is incorrect, because alerts that occur within a three hour time frame are not always grouped together into one incident. The time frame is not the only criterion for grouping alerts into incidents. Alerts that occur within a three hour time frame may belong to different causality chains, or may be unrelated to any malicious activity. For example, if a host has a file download and a registry modification within a three hour time frame, these alerts may not be grouped into the same incident, unless they are part of the same attack.

Option D is incorrect, because every alert does not create a new incident. Creating a new incident for every alert would result in alert fatigue and inefficient investigations. Cortex XDR aims to reduce the number of incidents by grouping related alerts into one incident, based on their causality chains and other attributes.

Reference:

Palo Alto Networks Certified Detection and Remediation Analyst (PCDRA) Study Guide, page 9 Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation, Incident Management Overview² Cortex XDR: Stop Breaches with AI-Powered Cybersecurity¹

NEW QUESTION # 64

If you have an isolated network that is prevented from connecting to the Cortex Data Lake, which type of Broker VM setup can you use to facilitate the communication?

- A. Local Agent Installer and Content Caching
- **B. Local Agent Proxy**
- C. Broker VM Pathfinder
- D. Broker VM Syslog Collector

Answer: B

Explanation:

If you have an isolated network that is prevented from connecting to the Cortex Data Lake, you can use the Local Agent Proxy setup to facilitate the communication. The Local Agent Proxy is a type of Broker VM that acts as a proxy server for the Cortex XDR agents that are deployed on the isolated network. The Local Agent Proxy enables the Cortex XDR agents to communicate securely with the Cortex Data Lake and the Cortex XDR management console over the internet, without requiring direct access to the internet from the isolated network. The Local Agent Proxy also allows the Cortex XDR agents to download installation packages and content updates from the Cortex XDR management console. To use the Local Agent Proxy setup, you need to deploy a Broker VM on the isolated network and configure it as a Local Agent Proxy. You also need to deploy another Broker VM on a network that has internet access and configure it as a Remote Agent Proxy. The Remote Agent Proxy acts as a relay

between the Local Agent Proxy and the Cortex Data Lake. You also need to install a strong cipher SHA256-based SSL certificate on both the Local Agent Proxy and the Remote Agent Proxy to ensure secure communication. You can read more about the Local Agent Proxy setup and how to configure it here1 and here2. Reference:

Local Agent Proxy

Configure the Local Agent Proxy Setup

NEW QUESTION # 65

What kind of the threat typically encrypts user files?

- A. SQL injection attacks
- B. Zero-day exploits
- C. supply-chain attacks
- D. ransomware

Answer: D

Explanation:

Ransomware is a type of malicious software, or malware, that encrypts user files and prevents them from accessing their data until they pay a ransom. Ransomware can affect individual users, businesses, and organizations of all kinds. Ransomware attacks can cause costly disruptions, data loss, and reputational damage. Ransomware can spread through various methods, such as phishing emails, malicious attachments, compromised websites, or network vulnerabilities. Some ransomware variants can also self-propagate and infect other devices or networks. Ransomware authors typically demand payment in cryptocurrency or other untraceable methods, and may threaten to delete or expose the encrypted data if the ransom is not paid within a certain time frame. However, paying the ransom does not guarantee that the files will be decrypted or that the attackers will not target the victim again. Therefore, the best way to protect against ransomware is to prevent infection in the first place, and to have a backup of the data in case of an attack123456 Reference:

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What Is Ransomware? | Ransomware.org

Ransomware - FBI

NEW QUESTION # 66

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