## **UW** Medicine

Return Mail Processing Center PO Box 10444 Dublin, OH 43017-4044

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>> <<Address1>> <<Address2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

February 19, 2019

## Notice of Data Breach

Dear <</First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

## What Happened

On December 26, 2018, UW Medicine became aware of an error in a database configuration that made protected internal files available on the internet earlier that month. Certain information about you was exposed and we think it is important that you know of this incident. We apologize for any distress this may cause you.

## What Information Was Involved

The files contained information about reporting that UW Medicine is legally required to make. Specifically, the files contained protected health information (PHI) including your name, medical record number, and the description and purpose of the information shared with an outside party in order to comply with reporting requirements. The nature of the PHI has been intentionally omitted from this letter to protect your privacy; however, we encourage you to call the contact number below for more detailed information.

- The content of the files was limited to reporting information.
- The files did not contain any medical records.
- The files did not contain any patient financial information.
- The files did not contain any Social Security numbers.

#### What We Are Doing

We want to assure you that we took immediate steps to remove the information permanently from the internet as soon as the vulnerability was discovered, and we are reviewing our internal protocols and procedures to prevent this from happening again. As required by federal law, we have also reported this incident to the Office of Civil Rights.

#### What You Can Do

At this time there is no evidence that your information has been misused. We encourage you to call (844) 322-8234 with any questions or go to https://ide.myidcare.com/uwmedicine. MyIDCare representatives have been fully versed on the incident and can answer questions or concerns you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

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James S. Mathis Chief Compliance Officer UW Medicine

# **UW** Medicine

Return Mail Processing Center PO Box 10444 Dublin, OH 43017-4044

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>> <<Address1>> <<Address2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

February 22, 2019

#### Notice of Data Breach

#### Dear <</First Name>> <</Last Name>>,

#### What Happened

On December 26, 2018, UW Medicine became aware of an error in a database configuration that made protected internal files available on the internet earlier that month. Certain information about you was exposed and we think it is important that you know of this incident. We apologize for any distress this may cause you.

## What Information Was Involved

The files contained information about reporting that UW Medicine is legally required to track. The files contained your name and medical record number and a description of the personal health information reported; no sensitive health information about you was exposed. This limited information did not contain your medical records, financial information, or Social Security Number. The most common reasons for sharing information included the following:

- Routine mandatory reporting to public health agencies including reporting on diseases of public health significance, birth certificate processing, and immunizations;
- Determining eligibility for a research study; and
- Helping UW Medicine provide higher quality of care to patients through quality improvement studies.

We believe the risk to you is very low, but we wanted to notify you out of an abundance of caution.

#### What We Are Doing

We want to assure you that we took immediate steps to remove the information permanently from the internet as soon as the vulnerability was discovered, and we are reviewing our internal protocols and procedures to prevent this from happening again. As required by federal law, we have also reported this incident to the Office for Civil Rights.

#### What You Can Do

At this time there is no evidence that your information has been misused. If you have any questions you may call (844) 322-8234 or go to https://ide.myidcare.com/uwmedicine. ID Experts representatives have been fully versed on the incident and can answer questions or concerns you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

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James S. Mathis Chief Compliance Officer UW Medicine