Notice of Data Security Incident

Allied Eye Physicians & Surgeons Inc. ("Allied Eye") was recently notified of an incident that may have involved the personal information or protected health information of certain Allied Eye patients. Although Allied Eye has no evidence that any personal information or protected health information has been misused for the purpose of committing fraud or identity theft, it is notifying its patients to advise them about the steps it has taken to address the incident and provide them with guidance on what they can do to protect themselves.

Allied Eye uses Eye Care Leaders ("ECL"), a third-party service provider, to store electronic patient medical records and related information. ECL recently notified Allied Eye and other eyecare providers that on December 4, 2021, an unknown third party accessed ECL's network. ECL advised us that upon discovering the incident, ECL contained the incident, notified law enforcement, conducted an investigation, and began restoring data from backups where available.

On March 1, 2022, ECL notified Allied Eye that this incident may have involved unauthorized access to protected health information or other personal information. Although ECL has not identified evidence confirming unauthorized access, acquisition, or disclosure of any personal information or protected health information, ECL has indicated they cannot rule out the possibility that the third party may have accessed or acquired information stored within ECL's myCare Integrity EMR (Electronic Medical Records). As a result, out of an abundance of caution, and as required by law, Allied Eye is notifying all of its patients who had personal information stored by myCare Integrity EMR. That information included, depending on the individual, the individual's name, address, telephone number, date of birth, Social Security number, and medical treatment and diagnosis information. Allied Eye does not have any evidence of harm as a result of this incident.

On April 27, 2022, Allied Eye began sending written notifications to individuals whose personal information or protected health information was contained in the potentially accessed or acquired files for whom it has contact information. Allied Eye also arranged for complimentary identity theft protection services for those individuals. Notified individuals should refer to the notice they will receive in the mail regarding steps they can take to protect themselves. Again, Allied Eye has no reason to believe that any personal information has been misused for the purpose of committing fraud or identity theft, but as a precautionary measure, individuals should remain vigilant to protect against potential fraud or identity theft by, among other things, reviewing their account statements and monitoring credit reports closely. They should promptly report any suspected fraudulent activity or identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, including the police and their state's attorney general. Potentially affected individuals may also wish to review the tips provided by the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") on fraud alerts, security/credit freezes and steps that they can take to avoid identity theft. For more information and to contact the FTC, please visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338).

Allied Eye regrets any inconvenience this incident may cause. ECL has assured Allied Eye that it has implemented additional security measures to lessen the likelihood that an incident like this will occur in the future. Additional information is available via a confidential, toll-free inquiry line at (855) 788-1503 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern, Monday through Friday.