Jeffrey A. Blumenthal, M.D. Stanley A. Cohen, M.D. Benjamin D. Gold, M.D. Jay A. Hochman, M.D. L. Glen Lewis, M.D. Jeffery D. Lewis, M.D. Steven Liu, M.D.



Seth B. Marcus, M.D. William F. Meyers, M.D. Dinesh G. Patel, M.D. Edith S. Pilzer, M.D. Larry M. Saripkin, M.D. Olga M. Sherrod, M.D.

## Dear Patient:

We are sending you this letter as part of our commitment to quality patient care and protecting patient privacy.

On or about April 28, 2017, patient medical records at GI Care for Kids **Endoscopy Center only** were encrypted by a cyber-ransomware attack. We discovered the attack on that same day. These records contained NO financial information such as Social Security numbers, bank account or credit card information. Rather, the information appears to have included names, addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth and/or ages, and may have included medical information such as history and diagnoses.

As part of our response, we retained cyber-security experts who conducted a thorough investigation. This investigation found NO evidence that any information was stolen or viewed during this attack. Instead, all of the evidence developed indicates that a ransomware program simply encrypted these records, rendering them unreadable. Nevertheless, we are sending you this notification out of an abundance of caution.

We do not believe there are any further actions which you need to take at this time to protect against possible harm. However, out of an abundance of caution you may wish to consider contacting one of the major credit bureaus and placing a fraud alert on your credit. By establishing a fraud alert, you will receive a follow-up letter that will explain how you can receive a free copy of your credit report. When you receive your credit report, examine it closely and look for signs of fraud, such as credit accounts that are not yours, then continue to monitor your credit reports. Contact information for the major credit bureaus is as follows:

Equifax: (888)766-0008; <a href="https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraud Online/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp">https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraud Online/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp</a>. General: (800) 685-1111, <a href="https://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>, P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241.

**Experian:** (888) 397-3742; <a href="https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html">https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html</a>. General: (888)EXPERIAN (397-3742); <a href="https://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>; 475 Anton Blvd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

**TransUnion:** (888) 909-8872); <a href="http://www.transunion.com/personal-credit/credit-disputes/fraud-alerts.page">http://www.transunion.com/personal-credit/credit-disputes/fraud-alerts.page</a>; TransUnion Fraud Victim Assistance Department, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19022-2000. General: (800) 680-7289, <a href="https://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>; P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19022-2000

We also suggest that you review your bank statements and credit card statements each month, and review your insurance EOB's when received. You may contact us at (404)303-4650 or visit our website at <a href="https://www.gicareforkids.com">www.gicareforkids.com</a> for additional information.

We sincerely apologize for any stress or inconvenience this may cause, and regret that this situation has occurred. GI Care for Kids (Children's Center for Digestive Healthcare) are committed to providing quality care, including protecting your personal information, and we want to assure you that we have policies and procedures in place to protect your privacy.

Sincerely,

The Physicians and Staff at GI Care for Kids 993-D Johnson Ferry Road, N.E., Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30342, 404-257-0799