

April 28, 2020

Re: Important Notice of Data Privacy Breach

Dear Valued Patient:

We are writing to notify you of an incident that resulted in the unauthorized disclosure of certain personal information about you and to provide information about steps you can take to inform and protect yourself.

What Happened. On Sunday, April 5, 2020, an employee of Stamford Hospital sent an email to certain Stamford Hospital Bennett Cancer Center patients providing details about upcoming changes to scheduling and telehealth practices. Each recipient's email address was inadvertently left visible to all other recipients.

What Information Was Involved? Personal information exposed as a result of this unauthorized disclosure was limited to individual email addresses. However, the email would indicate that you may be a patient of Bennett Cancer Center. Fortunately, no Social Security numbers, financial identifiers, or insurance identifiers were included in the email. Additionally, no other specific health information was included in the email.

What We Are Doing. We want to assure you that we are taking steps to prevent a similar event from occurring in the future. When the employee discovered what happened, the employee immediately reported the incident and attempted to recall the email. In response to the incident, we took corrective action with the employee, including retraining and re-education on Stamford Hospital's policies and procedures related to the safeguarding of patient information. Additionally, in order to prevent the occurrence of a similar incident, we have created a new policy regarding procedures for sending emails to multiple recipients and are training employees on that new policy.

What You Can Do. In addition to our efforts, you can take certain steps to mitigate this error. If you received this email, dated April 5, 2020, please delete all copies of it. To see the information it provided about changes to our scheduling and telehealth practices, please visit our website at <https://www.stamfordhealth.org/care-treatment/cancer/>.

Stamford Hospital takes patient confidentiality very seriously. We apologize for any inconvenience this incident may have caused you. If you have any questions regarding this incident, please do not hesitate to contact 1-866-327-1361. We are here to assist in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Stamford Hospital