

Notice of Security Incident

The Stern Cardiovascular Foundation, Inc. (“Stern Cardiovascular”) is giving notice about a recent security incident that may have involved some patients’ personal information.

On September 6, 2022, we discovered a data security incident that temporarily caused disruption to certain portions of our information technology network. Upon discovery, we immediately investigated and aggressively responded to this incident. Outside technical experts were engaged to further investigate, mitigate, and evaluate our systems. Fortunately, we were able to restore normal operations promptly, and patient care was unaffected by this event. Stern Cardiovascular’s IT team has continued to work closely with the cyber experts to remediate this event and to further harden Stern Cardiovascular’s defenses.

During the course of our investigation, on September 13, we learned that an unauthorized third party may have accessed or potentially exfiltrated certain limited files from our IT environment in connection with this incident on or around September 4 - 6. While our investigation is ongoing, it appears at this time that some of the impacted files may have contained the personal information of certain patients and other individuals associated with Stern Cardiovascular. Our active electronic medical record system was not impacted by the incident.

In an abundance of caution, we are notifying patients who were potentially affected of this incident by first class U.S. mail at the last known address of the patient or legal guardian. Persons potentially affected are encouraged to remain vigilant and monitor financial account statements and credit reports carefully. Additional guidance that patients can take to protect themselves can be found at: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft>

For more information about this incident and protective steps potentially affected persons may wish to take, patients can call 901-271-4045 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Central Time, Monday - Friday (excluding major U.S. holidays). We are fully committed to protecting personal information and sincerely apologize for any concern this incident may have caused.