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## **What Happened**

On April 12, 2023, Atlanta Women’s Health Group (“AWHG”) identified abnormal activity on its computer system. AWHG immediately took steps to isolate its networks and fully contain the incident. AWHG, with the assistance of cybersecurity experts, proactively isolated the exposure and launched an investigation into the nature and scope of the incident. The forensic investigation was robust and ultimately determined that the unauthorized user accessed certain patient information.

## **What Steps Have We Taken**

After AWHG confirmed that patient information was accessed, it launched an extensive and thorough data mining effort to identify potentially affected individuals. Although there is no evidence that any patient information has been improperly used, AWHG will be notifying patients of the incident. Not every patient’s information was affected, but for those whose information was affected, the unauthorized user may have had access to patient's name, date of birth, patient ID number, and other information that may be contained in medical records. Please note that the actual protected health information affected varies by individual and AWHG cannot confirm whether this information was actually accessed or acquired by the unauthorized user.

AWHG values the privacy of all its patients, and we deeply regret that this incident occurred. Since the incident, AWHG has worked extensively with outside security consultants to implement additional cybersecurity measures to prevent a recurrence of such an attack and to continue protecting the privacy of our valued patients. We appreciate our patients for entrusting us with their care and rest assured that we remain committed to that care and to handling this unfortunate situation to the best of our ability. We have also reported this incident to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Additional safeguards include replacing certain components of our system and changing the remote access protocols for our systems.

Although AWHG has notified all patients of this incident, only a subset of patients’ information was actually affected by the event. Just because you have received notice of this event does not mean your information was compromised.

Any patient wanting additional information can use the toll-free number 1-888-566-8248 for IDex, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Eastern Time.

While AWHG is unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of protected health information as a result of this incident, AWHG nevertheless encourages individuals to review their credit reports, health account statements, health insurance account records, and explanations of benefit forms for suspicious activity and to report all suspicious activity immediately to the institution that issued the record.

### **ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

As a precautionary measure, we also recommend that you remain vigilant to protect against potential fraud and/or identity theft by, among other things, reviewing your account statements and monitoring credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You should also promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidents of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, including the police and your state's attorney general, as well as the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC").

You may wish to review the tips provided by the FTC on fraud alerts, security/credit freezes and steps you can take to avoid identity theft. For more information and to contact the FTC, please visit [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft) or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338). You may also contact the FTC at Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

**Credit Reports:** You may obtain a free copy of your credit report once every 12 months from each of the three national credit reporting agencies by visiting [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), by calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You can print a copy of the request form at:

<https://www.annualcreditreport.com/manualRequestForm.action>.

Alternatively, you may elect to purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one of the three national credit reporting agencies. Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies for the purpose of requesting a copy of your credit report or for general inquiries is as follows:

Equifax 1-866-349-5191 <a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a> P. O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30348	Experian 1-888-397-3742 <a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a> P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion 1-800-888-4213 <a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a> P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094
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**Fraud Alerts:** You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. A fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit report for one (1) year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any new accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three national credit reporting agencies using the contact information listed above. Additional information is available at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com).

**Credit and Security Freezes:** You may have the right to place a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A credit freeze can be placed without any charge and is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a credit freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a credit freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a credit freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. Since the instructions for how to establish a credit freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three major credit reporting companies as specified below to find out more information:

Equifax Security Freeze	Experian Security Freeze	TransUnion Security Freeze
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-888-909-8872
<a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>	<a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>	<a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>
P.O. Box 105788	P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 160
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Woodlyn, PA 19094

This notification was not delayed by law enforcement. Individuals interacting with credit reporting agencies have rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

We encourage you to review your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting [https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/bcfp\\_consumer-rights-summary\\_2018-09.pdf](https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/bcfp_consumer-rights-summary_2018-09.pdf), or by requesting information in writing from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

**California Residents:** Visit the California Office of Privacy Protection ([www.oag.ca.gov/privacy](http://www.oag.ca.gov/privacy)) for additional information on protection against identity theft. Office of the Attorney General of California, 1300 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, Telephone: 1-800-952-5225.

**Iowa Residents:** Iowa residents can contact the Office of the Attorney general to obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft from the Iowa Attorney General's office at: Office of the Attorney General of Iowa, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 E. Walnut Street, Des Moines IA 50319, 515-281-5164.

**Kentucky Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Kentucky, 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, [www.ag.ky.gov](http://www.ag.ky.gov), Telephone: 1-502-696-5300.

**Maryland Residents:** Maryland residents can contact the Office of the Attorney General to obtain information about steps you can take to avoid identity theft from the Maryland Attorney General's office at: Office of the Attorney General, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, (888) 743-0023, <http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>.

**New York State Residents:** New York residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the New York Attorney General's Office at: Office of the Attorney General for the State of New York, Bureau of Consumer Frauds & Protection, The Capitol, Albany, New York 12224-0341; <https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/identity-theft>; (800) 771-7755.

**North Carolina Residents:** North Carolina residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office at: North Carolina Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 877-5-NO-SCAM (Toll-free within North Carolina); 919-716-6000; [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov).

**Oregon Residents:** Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, [www.doj.state.or.us/](http://www.doj.state.or.us/), Telephone: 877-877-9392

**Rhode Island Residents:** Rhode Island residents can contact the Office of the Attorney general at: Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, (401) 274-4400, [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov). You have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

**Vermont Residents:** If you do not have internet access but would like to learn more about how to place a security freeze on your credit report, contact the Vermont Attorney General's Office at 802-656-3183 (800-649-2424 toll-free in Vermont only).

**All US Residents:** Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, <https://consumer.ftc.gov>, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), TTY: 1-866-653-4261.