



August 7, 2024

Office of the Attorney General
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202



I am writing on behalf of our client, Mid-Atlantic Nephrology Associates, P.A. (MANA), to notify you of a security breach incident, as required under Md. Code Com. Law §14-3501 *et seq.* MANA is a healthcare provider located at 1589 Sulphur Spring Road, Suite 109, Baltimore, MD 21227.

On July 9, 2024, MANA learned from a third party that a MANA employee in their Columbia, Maryland office had inadvertently disclosed Personal Information (PI) for one of our patients. The compromised PI consisted of urinalysis lab results. In addition to the actual lab results, the document included the patient's name, date of birth, age, sex, medical record numbers, and home address. No other medical information was disclosed beyond the lab results, and no financial information was disclosed. Upon discovering this incident, MANA immediately launched an internal investigation, with the help of this firm.

The following steps were taken to mitigate the situation and prevent such an occurrence from happening in the future:

1. The employee was suspended pending our investigation.
2. The employee was required to review and re-sign MANA's Privacy and Security Policies/employee handbook.
3. The employee was required to retake the annual training module HIPAA Privacy and Security 101, version 3.0.
4. MANA's Privacy and Security Policies were reviewed and updated to address uploading and downloading personal information on company computers.
5. This incident was used as a teaching tool for all MANA employees on the seriousness of violating privacy and security protocols.

On August 8, 2024, MANA will mail a notification letter to the one (1) affected Maryland resident via United States First-Class mail, in substantially the same form as the enclosed letter.

MANA takes the privacy security of Personal Information very seriously and is committed to protecting patients' Personal Information.

Sincerely,
W. Andrew H. Gantt
W. Andrew H. Gantt, Esq.
Gantt Law, LLC
Enclos.

Patient Name
Patient Address
Patient Address

August 8, 2024

Dear Patient Name:

On July 9, 2024, we learned from a third party that an employee in our Columbia office inadvertently disclosed your Protected Health Information (PHI). The compromised PHI consisted of your Litholink 24-hour urine panel lab results. In addition to the actual lab results, the document included your name, date of birth, age, sex, medical record numbers and home address. No other medical information was disclosed beyond the lab results, and no financial information was disclosed.

We understand that medical information about you and your health is private, and we are committed to protecting the privacy and security of your medical information. Upon learning of the inadvertent disclosure, we immediately opened an internal investigation with the assistance of outside legal counsel. The employee in question was suspended pending the results of the investigation. As part of our investigation, we contacted the third party to ensure that the PHI received had been destroyed, which was confirmed. We take such situations very seriously and have put in place new policies and have retrained our employees to ensure that such a mistake will not happen again.

As a result of our investigation, we have concluded that the risk of harm to you resulting from this inadvertent disclosure is minimal, however, to alleviate concerns you may have regarding identity infringement, we are offering you three years of free credit monitoring through LifeLock services. Please contact our Privacy Officer, Kim Losiewski at 443-575-4874 or call our compliance hotline at 410-536-4637 to confirm that you would like this service, or if you have any questions.

You can also obtain information from the three credit reporting agencies below regarding steps to avoid identity theft.

Equifax
P.O. Box 740241
Atlanta, GA 30374
<https://www.equifax.com>
888-378-4329

Experian
P.O. Box 2104
Allen, TX 75013-0949
<https://www.experian.com>
888-397-3742

TransUnion
P.O. Box 1000
Chester, PA 19022
<https://www.transunion.com>
888-909-8872

I am also including the contact information for both the Federal Trade Commission and the Maryland Office of Attorney General should you require further assistance.

Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20580
<https://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov>
877-382-4357

Maryland Office of Attorney General
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov>
888-743-0023

Again, we understand that medical information about you and your health is private, and we are committed to protecting the privacy and security of your medical information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 443-575-4872.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Przybyla
Executive Director