



May 11, 2016

We are providing this public notice to you as part of Imperial Valley Family Care Medical Group's commitment to patient privacy. We take patient privacy very seriously, and it is important to us that you are made fully aware of a potential privacy issue. On March 21, 2016 there was a burglary at the office of Dr. Sampat and a single laptop computer was taken from the premises. A police report of the incident was filed with the El Centro Police Department. We have discovered during our investigation of the incident that the laptop may have contained patient's personal information, including name, address, date of birth, and personal health information. However, we have not received any indication that the information has been accessed or used by an unauthorized individual.

Please be assured that we have taken every step necessary to address the incident, and that we are committed to fully protecting all of the information that has been entrusted to us. We are keenly aware of how important a patient's personal information is to them. As a result of the above incident and based on our investigation, personal information may have also included Social Security number, Driver's license information or California identification card information ("Specified Information"). If patients choose, as a measure of added security, we are offering, those patients whose personal information included this Specified Information, one year of identity theft protection and credit monitoring and reporting services at no cost to patients identified in our investigation.

If patients have any questions concerning this notification or want information regarding the complimentary credit reporting services available, please contact **844-670-3821 and speak to Angelica Valenzuela, Privacy Officer** or by email to patientservices@ivfcmg.com.

There are additional actions you can consider taking to reduce the chances of identity theft or fraud on your account(s). Please refer to the final page of this letter.

We understand that this may pose an inconvenience to our patients. We sincerely apologize and regret that this situation has occurred. Imperial Valley Family Care Medical Group is committed to providing quality care, including protecting personal information, and we want to assure all of our patients that we have policies and procedures to protect their privacy. Should you have questions or concerns regarding this matter and/or the protections available to you, please do not hesitate to contact us at 760-355-7730.

Sincerely,

Donald G. Caudill
Chief Strategic Officer

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS TO HELP REDUCE YOUR CHANCES OF IDENTITY THEFT

➤ **PLACE A 90-DAY FRAUD ALERT ON YOUR CREDIT FILE**

An **initial 90 day security alert** indicates to anyone requesting your credit file that you suspect you are a victim of fraud. When you or someone else attempts to open a credit account in your name, increase the credit limit on an existing account, or obtain a new card on an existing account, the lender should take steps to verify that you have authorized the request. If the creditor cannot verify this, the request should not be satisfied. You may contact one of the credit reporting companies below for assistance.

Equifax
1-800-525-6285
www.equifax.com

Experian
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com

TransUnion
1-800-680-7289
www.transunion.com

➤ **PLACE A SECURITY FREEZE ON YOUR CREDIT FILE**

If you are very concerned about becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft, a security freeze might be right for you. Placing a freeze on your credit report will prevent lenders and others from accessing your credit report entirely, which will prevent them from extending credit. With a Security Freeze in place, you will be required to take special steps when you wish to apply for any type of credit. This process is also completed through each of the credit reporting companies.

➤ **ORDER YOUR FREE ANNUAL CREDIT REPORTS**

Visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call 877-322-8228. Once you receive your credit reports, review them for discrepancies. Identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. Verify all information is correct. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting company.

➤ **MANAGE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Take steps such as: carrying only essential documents with you; being aware of whom you are sharing your personal information with and shredding receipts, statements, and other sensitive information.

➤ **USE TOOLS FROM CREDIT PROVIDERS**

Carefully review your credit reports and bank, credit card and other account statements. Be proactive and create alerts on credit cards and bank accounts to notify you of activity. If you discover unauthorized or suspicious activity on your credit report or by any other means, file an identity theft report with your local police and contact a credit reporting company.

➤ **OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ABOUT IDENTITY THEFT AND WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF**

- Visit <http://www.experian.com/credit-advice/topic-fraud-and-identity-theft.html> for general information regarding protecting your identity.
- The Federal Trade Commission has an identity theft hotline: 877-438-4338; TTY: 1-866-653-4261. They also provide information on-line at www.ftc.gov/idtheft.