JUNE 30, 2017

HEALTH ADVISORY

Ongoing Cyber Threat Impacting Health Care

The United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team has been monitoring an international ransomware campaign, referred to as *"WannaCry 2.0 or Petya"* in the media that has affected critical infrastructure sectors including health care and public sector assets in the U.S., as well as the transportation sector. **Please contact the North Dakota Department of Health at 701.328.2270 and let them know if your health care facility has been impacted (either directly or indirectly) by this incident.**

You are encouraged to share this message with your information security officials.

MITIGATING AGAINST THIS THREAT

- The National Health – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (NH-ISAC) has tested a "vaccine" that has been reported as potentially helpful for systems that have **not** been impacted. While the use of this "vaccine" should not preclude proper patching, consider the business impact of creating a file C:/Windows/perfc.exe or editing the existing file to make them READ ONLY. As with any patch/update, this modification should be evaluated before implementation by appropriate system security personnel. For further information on this vaccine please visit https://nhisac.org/nhisac-alerts/petya-ransomware-updates/.

- Educate users on common Phishing tactics to entice users to open malicious attachments or to click links to malicious sites.

- Patch vulnerable systems with the latest Microsoft security patches: https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/bulletins.aspx

- Verify perimeter tools are blocking Tor .Onion sites

- Use a reputable anti-virus (AV) product whose definitions are up-to-date to scan all devices in your environment in order to determine if any of them have malware on them that has not yet been identified. Many AV products will automatically clean up infections or potential infections when they are identified.

- Monitor US-CERT for the latest updates from the U.S. government.

Categories of Health Alert messages:
- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, North Dakota EMS Association and hospital public information officers.