DATA PROTECTION OFFICE NEWS

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DPO Newsletter 20

Pinnacle COVID 19 vaccination programme reporting system

I wrote to you earlier in the week, alerting you to the fact that there has been a data breach as a result of the Pinnacle system transferring reports containing GPs' personal mobile phone numbers into patient's electronic records. Unfortunately, at least three GPs- vaccination site leads gave their personal mobile number to colleagues at NHS Digital who then inputted their phone numbers into Pinnacle. As a result, the GPs' personal numbers can now be viewed in at least 7000 patient records. This issue has been escalated to a national level and NHS England who are the data controller for the Pinnacle system have reported the breach to the Information Commissioner's Office.

If you do/ did have a personal phone number in the Pinnacle system, please can you let me know ASAP, so the full extent of this issue can be addressed?

GP practice Privacy Notices on website

Can you please ensure the privacy notice on your practice website has been updated with information about COVID-19 purpose data processing? At the end of December, I sent suggested wording, a copy of which I've attached. Details of the Notice under Regulation 3(4) of the Health Service Control of Patient Information Regulations 2002, the "COPI notice", should also be included in your privacy notice. This notice mandates the sharing and processing of data with a COVID-19 purpose. I have attached a copy of the letter which was sent out on 20th March 2020. The Notice has since been extended to March 2021 and the expectation is that it will be extended again until September 2021 and possibly beyond that date.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at jane.hilldpo@nhs.net or westpenninelmc@btconnect.com, or mobile 07951 530 417.