MEDIA NOTICE

Smile Doctors of Arizona, P.C. d/b/a Grinz Orthodontics (Grinz Orthodontics) is reporting that protected health information of some of its patients was involved with a potential data security breach. Grinz Orthodontics has sent notification letters to individuals who may have been affected by this incident.

On March 14, 2023, Grinz Orthodontics discovered a break in and theft at its offices that occurred on or about March 10, 2023. The break in involved the theft of several desktop computers, only one of which had limited protected health information (PHI) stored locally on the device used exclusively in relation to x-ray imaging. Grinz Orthodontics' Electronic Health Record is a cloud hosted system and was NOT impacted by this theft since all data is stored offsite. Further, we have monitored for and detected no unauthorized access to our practice management software.

Grinz Orthodontics immediately notified law enforcement and launched an investigation into the incident. The investigation included a review of the security systems in place and the applicable desktop computers. Although this investigation was a time-consuming process, Grinz Orthodontics believed it was necessary to ensure appropriate precautions and next steps were taken.

However, we determined that some Grinz Orthodontics' PHI was stored locally on the x-ray imaging desktop computer. While the x-ray imaging desktop itself was password protected, Grinz Orthodontics believes the perpetrators may be able to access information stored locally on the device. PHI potentially breached includes first name, last name, date of birth, gender, appointment date and x-ray images used for treatment.

Based on the data involved, we believe there is low risk of harm to affected individuals. As such, there are no specific actions patients need to take at this time. We are notifying all affected individuals and reminding everyone to always be prudent in monitoring personal accounts for any suspicious activity.

Grinz Orthodontics takes cybersecurity and our role of safeguarding patients' PHI very seriously. We deeply value your relationship and sincerely apologize for this incident. For additional information regarding this incident or to determine if your data was involved, please contact us at (866) 347-1603.