

November 9, 2011

An Open Notice to Our Patients:

On September 9, 2011, Valley Baptist Corporate Compliance received notice that a USB flash drive containing a document with patient names was lost by an employee in the employee parking lot at Valley Baptist Medical Center – Brownsville. A thorough search of the parking lot as well as the employee's vehicle, clothing pockets and home was conducted to no avail. The following information was contained on the USB flash drive: patient names. Additionally, since the date the incident, no patients have reported evidence of medical data compromise.

Patients were notified via certified mail on October 31, 2011. However, a small number of letters were returned as "undeliverable". In an abundance of caution, therefore, Valley Baptist has posted this alert as an extra measure of alert. If you were a patient at Valley Baptist Medical Center - Brownsville patient between August 31, 2010 through February 28, 2011 and are concerned that your name may have been listed, you may contact the Corporate Compliance Office during business hours by calling toll free 1-877-840-5999.

Currently, Valley Baptist cannot be certain that any data has been used maliciously. Absent the absolute certainty that no risk exists, however, we advise that it is always good to periodically monitor one's credit. Patients may obtain a free on-line credit report from www.ftc.gov/freereports or contact one of the three major credit bureaus listed below.

- **Equifax:** 1-800-525-6285; www.equifax.com; P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241.
- **Experian:** 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742); www.experian.com; P.O. Box 9532, Allen, TX 75013.
- **TransUnion:** 1-800-680-7289; www.transunion.com; Fraud Victim Assistance Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92834-6790.

In addition to providing this notice, a review of policies and procedures is underway to improve safeguards. Valley Baptist takes our role of safeguarding patient information very seriously and apologizes for this event.