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JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H. Commissioner JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S. Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 9, 2024

Subject:

NH DAL 24-18 ACF DAL 24-30 HCBS DAL 24-07

Title:

Cybersecurity Incident Reporting

Dear Administrators and Operators:

In 2024 alone, more than 31 million Americans were affected by significant healthcare data breaches and millions more have been impacted by the unauthorized disclosure of private and protected information. Data breaches are often disruptive to operations and delivery of patient care. Accordingly, while healthcare evolves through embraced technology, cybersecurity should be considered an ever-present threat to healthcare systems and its end-users, including the residents and patients served. This letter is intended to update the reporting requirements for Nursing Homes, Adult Care Facilities, Certified Home Health Agencies, Licensed Home Care Services Agencies, and Hospice Providers during a possible or confirmed cybersecurity incident. This correspondence supersedes a Dear Administrator Letter dated August 12, 2019.

For purposes of this communication, a cybersecurity incident is one that has or is likely to have a material adverse impact on operations or results in the deployment of ransomware within a material part of the facility's or provider's information systems.

If a cyber security incident affects or is suspected of affecting your facility or provider group, the information should be reported to the Department of Health as soon as practicable. Such report may be made by calling the Surge Operations Center at **(917) 909-2676**. The facility's or provider's contact and current status information will be referred to the appropriate program for further action.

Questions regarding this correspondence may be referred to <u>cyberincident@health.ny.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Deetz, Deputy Director Office of Aging and Long-Term Care

cc: J. Morne C. Rodat M. Hennessey M. Wiley M. Chittenden H. Hayes K. Anderson A. Cokgoren M. Ferriter S. Paton K. Walker