Henry Ford Health System is notifying patients that some of their health information stored on an unencrypted flash drive was mistakenly lost. The information was limited to 1,658 liver transplant patients involved in a research study between 1989 and 2017.

This notification is done out of an abundance of caution. There is no indication the information was viewed by any unauthorized individual.

We take our responsibility to protect patient information very seriously and we apologize.

After learning of this incident on Feb. 28, 2018, we conducted a thorough investigation to determine what happened, identify who was affected and the type of information that may have been exposed. The information may have included the patient’s name, medical record number, date of birth, lab results, doctor’s name, treatment date and medical diagnosis and outcomes. The information did not contain Social Security numbers or credit card information.

The flash drive did not comply with our policy for protecting patient information. Our policy requires patient information to be stored on encrypted Henry Ford-issued electronic devices.

As a result of this incident we are re-educating employees about the proper way to safely protect patients’ health information on all electronic devices.

Patients who received a notification letter are asked to call 844.718.2693 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Monday - Friday if they have any questions.

MEDIA CONTACT: David Olejarz / David.Olejarz@hfhs.org