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12/7/2023

Dear SART Medical Director

As you may be aware, in May 2023, Westat, Inc. ("Westat") experienced a data security incident whereby an unauthorized actor accessed certain servers and removed data from the servers by exploiting a zero-day vulnerability. Westat is a third-party vendor contracted by the government to collect data, including the CDC's data submitted by assisted reproductive technology clinics to the National ART Surveillance System. The CDC and Westat investigated the breach and the culmination of their inquiry resulted in the letter that you may have recently received from Westat that outlines the specific time frame and data that was accessed. It is important to note that neither SART nor SARTCORS nor any SART contractor was involved in this data breach.

At this time, SART suggests that clinics discuss the implications of this breach with their attorneys and Compliance and Privacy Officers to determine whether notifications and other specific actions should be taken as a result of this incident. SART is working with its attorneys to better understand the impact of the security incident and obtain additional information regarding this incident that may be helpful to you. For example, we are developing a list of questions that will be asked of Westat, and SART will post answers, if Westat responds, on our website. We will continue to communicate with you, directly and through our website, as we gather more information.

Please direct questions regarding the specifics of this data security incident to the contacts provided by Westat: 1-888-650-0822 or NASS@Westat.com. In the meantime, we still strive to do what we can to assist both SART clinic members and ASRM members.

Sincerely,

Steven Spandorfer, M.D.
SART President 2023-2024

Setting the Standards for ART

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