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Clinic Closes Permanently After Patient Data Deleted

When Congress mandated that doctors use electronic health records, it opened the door to hacking. In a first, Brookside ENT and Hearing in Michigan has closed its clinic permanently after a ransomware attack which took control of their computerized medical records. When the two doctors refused to pay a \$6,500 ransom to get their locked files back, the hackers wiped out the entire computer system. All patient data was deleted.

The doctors refused to pay because they couldn't guarantee restored access or that additional ransom wouldn't be demanded. So rather than rebuild their practice from scratch, the doctors retired early, leaving their patients to find care, and scheduled surgery, elsewhere.

“Michigan Practice to Shutter After Hackers Delete Patient Files,” Jessica Davis, Health IT Security, Jessica Davis, April 1, 2019:

<https://healthitsecurity.com/news/michigan-practice-to-shutter-after-hackers-delete-patient-files>

“Ransomware Attack Shuts Down Michigan Practice — Deletes All Patient Files,” Art Gross, HITECH Answers, May 20, 2019:

<https://www.hitechanswers.net/ransomware-attack-shuts-down-michigan-practice-deletes-all-patient-files/>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

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