

Dear Colleagues,

Phishers often try to trick us using current events, and attackers will likey use the ongoing Change Healthcare cybersecurity incident to trick the healthcare community.

Please be on the lookout for emails and phone calls asking for account information or offering new or alternative payment methods. Be careful of people claiming to represent companies that they do not, or using minor variations in a company name, like changhealthcare.org.

Be vigilant to spot these four warning signs:

Context: Ask yourself if this is how the sender normally communicates with you. If a company normally sends requests electronically, a phone call or text message would be suspicious.

Links/Attachments: Verify all links before clicking on them, by hovering your mouse over the link to see the true address of the link. Since hovering (aka mousing) over links on mobile devices is difficult – there is a chance you will click on the link instead of hover over it – consider checking links on a desktop or laptop computer. Likewise, don't click on attachments that are not expected because they can contain malware.

Urgency: Pause and re-read any email that requests you "take action immediately" or respond within a timeframe. And remember, BU will never ask you for your passwords or sensitive information, like SSNs, by regular email.

Sender: Look out for similar but fraudulent email addresses that try to look like the supposed sender, such as corbettd@bx.edu or corbettdbuedu@gmail.com.

How can I get better at spotting phish?

Check out the latest phish we've caught at the BU Phish Bowl to get better at spotting them.

Faculty, staff, and students should go to the BU Phishing Guide to take training, available on the Terrier eDevelopment platform or as a PowerPoint slide deck.

What should I do when I spot a phish?

Forward phishy emails to abuse@bu.edu to protect you and the rest of the BU Community from further attack.

If you have questions, reach out to buinfosec@bu.edu, or your HIPAA Privacy and Security Officers at hipaa@bu.edu.



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