GREATER COLUMBIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, LLC. BH-ASO

## **Virus Protection**

No: PS622

Document Type:1	X Policy & Procedur	e Process Guideline	Adopted: Last Reviewed:	1/1/2019 2/28/2020
	Plan	System Description	Retired:	
Revisions:				
Document Scope: (applies to Policy & Procedure only)				
X The requirements herein apply only to the GCBH Central Office and its functions.				
<ul> <li>The requirements herein apply, verbatim, to GCBH and its network providers<sup>2</sup>.</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>The requirements herein apply both to GCBH and its network providers<sup>2</sup>. Additionally, network providers must have internal documents outlining their processes for implementing the requirements, insofar as they relate to actions for which network providers are responsible.</li> </ul>				

**PURPOSE:** 

To define the areas and the procedures for protecting Greater Columbia Behavioral Health (GCBH) equipment and networks from the potent threat of software virus intrusion and infection.

### **POLICY**

- A. This policy is specifically designed to deal with:
  - a. Boot sector & master boot sector Viruses;
  - b. Macro Viruses:
  - c. File Viruses;
  - d. Multipartite, Parasitic, Stealth, Polymorphic and other Viruses;
  - e. Conventional Macro Viruses;
  - f. Active Communication-enabled viruses, Trojans and worms as well those that may utilize future vectors;
  - g. Malicious code which has been compressed by a 32-bit compressor; and
  - h. Self-updating malicious code.
- B. Violation of this policy may subject employees or contractors to disciplinary procedures up to and including termination.
- C. Questions about this policy may be directed to the IS Manager.

#### **PROCEDURE**

## 1. Desktop Systems:

- 1.1. GCBH Recommended Primary Controls at Desktop Anti-Virus Level. These controls will be implemented by the Information Services department unless otherwise indicated:
  - Install certified anti-virus software on all desktop and laptop PCs and workstations;
  - 1.1.2. Subscribe to the alert service and virus definition file update service provided by the software vendor. Continuous monitoring of the software vendor's site for

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See definitions of document types in AD100, "Development, Approval & Review of Formal GCBH Documents"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>"Network Provider" – An organization with which GCBH is contracted for the provision of direct services.

- updates will be the responsibility of a designated Information Services Department;
- 1.1.3. Desktop anti-virus software (virus signatures) will be updated automatically through the use of network software policies. No user intervention will be required;
- 1.1.4. Perform emergency updates within one business day after an alert;
- 1.1.5. Implement the following desktop/laptop/server anti-virus software configuration:
  - 1.1.5.1. Enable full-time, background, real time, auto-protect or similar mode;
  - 1.1.5.2. Enable start-up scanning of memory, master / boot records, system files;
  - 1.1.5.3. Configure scanning/checking options to include checking for all files; and
  - 1.1.5.4. Enable logs for all desktop virus-related activity.
- 1.1.6. Subscribe to alert services from office productivity suite vendors and install all recommended security updates automatically through the use of network software policies.
- 1.2. Additional notes on desktop level policies:
  - 1.2.1. Alerts to users are neither recommended nor discouraged. However, system administrator alerts, logs, or other advisories are continuously enabled. If user alerts are enabled, User controls over the anti-virus software are set to minimum levels to prevent users from "canceling" a virus alert.
  - 1.2.2. User-driven scanning policies such as requesting users to scan media, downloads, or hard drives are not recommended as they are generally more expensive and infringing than useful.
- 1.3. GCBH Recommended Synergistic Controls at the Desktop-Level. These controls will be implemented by the Information Services department unless otherwise indicated:
  - 1.3.1. Enable Macro Virus Protection in Microsoft Office<sup>©</sup> Programs; and
  - 1.3.2. Use the anti-virus software heuristic controls (in full-time background mode where available).
- 1.4. Synergistic Controls at the E-Mail Client Level:
  - 1.4.1. Turn off auto-open attachments;
  - 1.4.2. Configure for Plain text only;
  - 1.4.3. Configure to challenge execution of all \*.EXE, \*.HTA, \*.VBS and other executables attachments:
  - 1.4.4. Configure to challenge opening of all \*.doc, \*.xls (and potentially \*.ppt files);
  - 1.4.5. Configure to challenge double click of all attachments; and
  - 1.4.6. Do not store "ALL" Company alias in local email lists.

# 2. E-Mail Gateways, Firewalls, Other Gateways and Anti-Spam Tools:

2.1. GCBH Primary Control at the Gateway Level:

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- 2.1.1. Install e-mail gateway antivirus software configured for full-time active mode;
- 2.1.2. Configure anti-virus software to check/scan all files;
- 2.1.3. Filter all arriving (and departing if possible) e-mail traffic by subject line /header;
- 2.1.4. Be prepared to rapidly adjust filtering rules based on security notices, software vendor alerts, user reports, etc.
- 2.2. Gateway Level, Potential Synergistic Controls:
  - 2.2.1. Filter all arriving and departing e-mail by spam threshold (greater than 40 identical messages blocked and source traced, if inside);
  - 2.2.2. Filter all \*.exe attachments and similar;
  - 2.2.3. Filter all \*.doc and similar attachments;
  - 2.2.4. Filter ActiveX<sup>®</sup> and JavaScript<sup>®</sup>.
- 2.3. Human Factors Potential Synergistic Controls:
  - 2.3.1. Educate users to consider e-mail attachments and links potentially dangerous and to treat them very cautiously. Specifically recommend education: Open only expected attachments and links from known and trusted sources. Delete or question all others before opening;
  - 2.3.2. Keep system managers updated and informed;
  - 2.3.3. Reinforce the message to users to never double click an e-mail attachment that is not expected. This policy is difficult since the affected (malicious) email will normally come "From" a trusted person. (Well informed users can be taught that \*.doc, \*.exe, \*.doc, \*.vbs, and \*.hta extensions are the most likely to be dangerous). Desktop anti-virus software will normally work if it is kept updated and properly configured to operate full-time in the background;
  - 2.3.4. Users that experience more than 2 anti-virus alerts in a 30-day period may be categorized as "high risk" users. Depending upon the source and nature of the infection, High Risk users will be subject to the following policy:
    - 2.3.4.1. Disabling of email and/or Internet access; and
    - 2.3.4.2. Disabling of external drives such as CD-ROM drives, USB devices, tape drives, etc.

**APPROVAL** 

Karen Richardson or Sindi Saunders, Co-Directors

Date

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