



**AVANTA**  
MEDICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

**FAX**

APRIL 22, 2004

## Windows PC Threats

A PC terminal gives you the advantage of a color monitor, fast connection speed and versatility, and the ability to perform non-Avanta functions and connect to the internet. However, if you do not take proper precautions to protect your Windows PC, crucial data and your Avanta connection could be lost.

**What is a Virus?:** A virus is a man-made program or piece of code that damages your files and data. Viruses are often disguised games or images with clever marketing titles such as "Just for you."

**What is a Worm?:** Computer worms are viruses that reside in the active memory of a computer and duplicate themselves. They may send copies of themselves to other computers, such as through email or Instant Message (IM).

**What is a Trojan Horse?:** A Trojan horse program is a malicious program that pretends to be a benign application; a Trojan horse program purposefully does something the user does not expect. Trojans are not viruses since they do not replicate, but Trojan horse programs can be just as destructive.

Whether it is a Virus, a Worm, or a Trojan Horse, there are many hidden dangers which may damage your computer. To help protect your Windows PC against these threats, Avanta suggests that you install a protection program such as McAfee® or Norton® Anti-virus. Once you have these programs installed, it is important to frequently update them. There are many new threats to your PC released every day and updating your security software frequently will help you block as many of these threats as possible.

Although you may connect to the Avanta System with your Windows PC, the Avanta System stores all your practice data on a secure SCO UNIX server. Avanta clients have known for years that the UNIX systems they use are among the most secure on the market.

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Now it has now been confirmed by the independent risk management company mi2g, Ltd. An excerpt from their report states: "Based on the number of vulnerabilities announced in 2002 that affect operating systems, the SCO UNIX... Operating Systems appear to be the least prone to hacker attack and damage from viruses and worms." Although your Windows PC maybe be vulnerable to attack, you practice data is securely stored on your UNIX server.

Avanta does not support your Windows PC. However, please give us a call if you have any questions about adding security software to keep your PC safe.

## FREE Avanta Seminar - EDIT PRACTICE FILES -

This next free seminar will explain the various files and fields within Edit Practice Files. Avanta's Practice Files include all the information for the Physician/Provider, Treatment/Transaction, Diagnosis, Insurance Company/Adjustor, Condition Code, Hospital/Location, etc. The lists of information that you find referenced through the Avanta System are established and edited through these files.

For your convenience, Avanta will offer four free sessions at two separate locations over two days. The locations that have been selected for this seminar include our office in Agoura Hills and the Cedars Sinai Building in Los Angeles. Morning and afternoon sessions are available at our office on Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> and at the Cedars Building on Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact Jennifer at Avanta to RSVP. As space is limited, a 48-hour cancellation notice is required. If you are unable to attend our seminars, private training can be scheduled at your office for a training fee.

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