

<<Date>>

<<Name>>

<<Title>>

<<Organization>>

<<Address>>

<<City, State Zipcode>>

Dear Referring Physician:

Thank you for referring your patients suffering from potential cardiovascular conditions to us. We value our partnership with your practice in the ongoing efforts to serve the community's needs.

Because we would like to continue that partnership, we draw your attention to a new Medicare policy that may affect our ability to treat your patients. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced that beginning May 1, 2013, it will implement a new policy denying payment for services ordered or referred by physicians not enrolled in the Medicare program. Because of this policy, CMS will penalize us if you are not formally enrolled in the Medicare program and you refer patients to us for services. Enrollment does not necessarily mean that you are a participating provider; it only means that your information is in CMS' database. You will not need to enroll in the Medicare program for purposes other than ordering or referring patients for services if you do not wish to do so. For information about this new policy, visit <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE1011.pdf> and <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE1305.pdf>.

To assist providers in determining who is eligible to make referrals, CMS has published a list of the name and National Provider Identifier of acceptable referral sources. The list can be found at www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/06_MedicareOrderingandReferring.asp#TopOfPage and will be updated on a monthly basis. If your name is not on the list, we may be unable to treat your patients until you complete the Medicare provider enrollment process.

Because the list is based on information contained within the CMS Medicare provider enrollment database, we urge you to ensure that you have updated your Medicare enrollment information since November 2003, even if none of your information has changed. If you have not updated this information, your information may not be in the CMS enrollment system. For those practitioners who have not updated their Medicare Provider enrollment information since November 2003, please visit www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll for information about the Medicare provider enrollment process, as well as links to the Medicare provider enrollment application and the Internet-based Medicare provider enrollment system. CMS has created a new form, the CMS-855O for individuals who do not wish to become participating providers but may need to refer patients for affected services. It is also available at the above website.

Thank you for helping us to comply with federal law and continuing to serve our patients to the best of our ability. Please contact _____ at _____ with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,
Cardiology practice managing partner