**MEDICARE UPDATE FOR OUR PRACTICE**
Dr. Keelee MacPhee does not participate with Medicare. This letter explains its benefits and its impact on you.

You may not know that it is **voluntary** for doctors to contract with Medicare. Once contracted, he/she must comply with Medicare's numerous restrictions/regulations (often quite complex and confusing) and can only be paid the fixed amount that Medicare will allow. Even if the patient desires to pay the doctor's real charges, it is prohibited by Medicare.

Doctors may choose NOT to contract with Medicare since it is a voluntary system. We have made the decision to not contract with Medicare effective January 1, 2015. We will still be offering you our medical services, but it will be outside of the Medicare payment system. You will be asked to pay us directly for our services as we do with our non-Medicare patients. Due to Medicare regulations, you will receive no reimbursement from Medicare/the Federal Government/secondary (medigap) insurance for our services.

**There will be NO change in your Medicare benefits. Your Medicare and secondary insurance benefits will continue to be in full effect for lab, x-rays, hospital services and for services you receive from all doctors contracted with Medicare. This change only affects our charges. There will be NO changes in our medical services to you.**

There is no one forcing me to do this. Medicare has not excluded me from the program.

You will be given a payment receipt for our services which may be useful for tax purposes, but it cannot be sent to Medicare OR your secondary insurance for reimbursement.

In our opinion, when a doctor decides not to contract with Medicare there are wonderful benefits for both doctors and patients. They are free to have a private professional relationship which means they make individual agreements on medical services and on reimbursement for these services which is fair to both. Whereas the terms are set and agreed to voluntarily by the doctor and the patient only, mutual fairness is the natural result. This is the type of relationship we want to have with our patients!

Thank you and please let us know if there any questions we can assist you with!

Keelee MacPhee, MD

**Please sign below to indicate you understand that Keelee MacPhee, MD will not file Medicare claims on your behalf. Furthermore, you agree not to file a claim to Medicare for any services received from Dr. MacPhee.**

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Patient Date

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Witness Date