NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

Mecklenburg Heart Specialists, P.A. 2630 East 7th Street Suite 210 Charlotte, NC 28204 (704) 334-0600

This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information.

We reserve the right to make changes to this notice and to make such changes effective for all "Protected Health Information" or "PHI"; we may already have about you. We will post any changes made to this policy in our office.

How we may use and disclose PHI about you:

- Treatment- coordination with other physicians, to refill prescriptions, or to have labs and x-rays done.
- Payment- from insurance companies for claims management, additional coverage. Also to consumer reporting agencies relating to collection of payments due to us.
- Health Care operations- things that allow us to improve the quality of care we provide to you and to reduce healthcare costs.
- Communications from our office- phone calls and messages of appointment reminders.

Other uses and disclosures we can make without your written authorization for which you have the opportunity to agree or object.

- Individuals involved in your care or payment for your care
- Required by law
- Public Health Activities
- Abuse, neglect, or domestic violence
- Health oversight activities
- Law suits or other legal proceedings
- Law enforcement
- Coroners, medical examiners, funeral directors
- Organ and tissue donation
- Research-under limited circumstances
- To avert a serious threat to health or safety
- Specialized government function
- Workers Compensation
- Disclosures requested by HIPAA Privacy Rule
- Incidental disclosures
- Limited data set disclosures

Other uses and disclosures of PHI that require your authorization

• Your written authorization needed

Your rights regarding PHI about you

- Right to request restrictions
- Right to inspect and copy
- Right to amend
- Right to receive an accounting of disclosures
- Right to receive a paper copy of this notice

Questions and complaints can be directed to our Privacy Official- Jaimen Walsh

This notice was published and first became effective on April 14, 2003.