1347 Thorpe Lane, San Marcos, TX 78666 Office: (512) 395-8770 Fax: (512) 395-8772

Notice To Our Valued Varicose Vein Patients:

- 1. Most insurance companies will pay for the treatment of "medically necessary" varicose veins (unless your employer has excluded these benefits from your policy).
- 2. Varicose veins may be considered medically necessary when your medical records document <u>all</u> of the following:
 - a. One or more of the following symptoms are present:
 - Persistent aching, cramping, burning, itching, swelling, or other symptoms significantly interfering with activities of daily living;
 - Significant attacks of superficial phlebitis;
 - Hemorrhage from ruptured varix;
 - Ulceration from venous stasis where incompetent varices are a contributing factor.
 - b. Incompetence (reflux) of the vein(s) to be treated is demonstrated on ultrasound.
 - c. Medical record documentation of at lease six (6) months of non-operative conservative management that has failed to improve symptoms (Medicare requires 90-180 days). Conservative non-operative management includes all of the following measures:
 - Walking;
 - Weight loss (if needed)
 - Frequent elevation of affected leg(s);
 - Avoidance of prolonged standing;
 - Consistent use of prescription therapeutic class II-IV compression stockings;
 - 1. Class II → up to 30 mmHg
 - 2. Class III → up to 40 mmHg
 - 3. Class IV \rightarrow 60 mmHg
- After a patient has been evaluated and the above recommendations have been met we can contact your insurance company for authorization and schedule your procedures if their approved.
- 4. If a patient has not met the above criteria we advise you to continue the conservative treatments and/or offer to do the surgery on a cash basis.
- 5. If a patient chooses to do the conservative therapies we will schedule a reevaluation appointment in 3 6 months (depending on your insurance requirements).