



**Paul W. Diabal, MD, FACP, FACC, FAHA
Cardiovascular Research Associates, PA**

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Phone (512)454-3333 Fax (888) 894-0872

EXPLANATION OF SERVICES AND CONSENT FOR EVALUATION AND TREATMENT

PLEDGE: Our pledge to you is to offer the finest in cardiovascular diagnostic evaluation and recommendations for your care based upon our education, training, and more than 25 years of experience in this field. We will also focus on your general health, attempting to identify and modify cardiovascular disease risks, where possible. Ultimately, our goal is to prevent the development of cardiovascular disease, or if it should be present, to reduce complications insofar as possible.

SCOPE: Please be advised that our services consist of *outpatient* consultation, evaluation, and treatment only. Because of limited staffing, we are not able, nor do we attempt, to offer full-service medical management, including after-hours care, night call, hospital admission, nor inpatient disease management. In the event you should have symptoms or concerns which you believe require urgent evaluation, we direct you to do the following:

- If you believe your condition is a true medical emergency, please call **911** for emergency medical services (EMS) evaluation and transportation to the nearest emergency room.
- If you believe that you are stable and simply require medical attention, please contact your primary physician (who will have a copy of all of our records and recommendations) for urgent evaluation and/or referral to an appropriate specialist.
- If you have no primary care physician and are not under the care of another physician, you may also present to the nearest emergency room for evaluation. In particular, adult medicine problems are now handled by "hospitalist physicians," who are internal medicine physicians providing 24-hour hospital coverage. These physicians are capable of emergency diagnostic assessment and referral to an on-call specialist, as appropriate.
- For routine questions or concerns, you may call our office during normal business hours. Your physician will respond to your concern at the next opportunity, usually within the next business day.

GOALS: As is widely known and recognized, cardiovascular disease is the major life-threatening illness in most industrialized or developed countries, and medical advances have led to dramatic improvements in disease outcomes. However, despite the best efforts of physicians, use of sophisticated diagnostic modalities, application of pharmacologic treatment, and even surgical intervention, progression of disease and its complications can and does occur. No certainty of outcome can be assured. While our ultimate goal in this clinic is prevention of cardiovascular disease and/or its complications, due to the nature of the disease(s), we can make no warranty or guarantee, oral, written, or implied, that our services will, in fact, prevent the development of cardiovascular disease,



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mitigate its progression (if present), or ultimately prevent complications such as myocardial infarction (heart attack), congestive heart failure (deterioration of heart function), or sudden death (sudden cardiac death).

By your signature below, you acknowledge awareness and understanding of the nature of cardiovascular disease, the limited scope of services which we are able to provide, and goals of our evaluation and treatment recommendations.

We welcome you to our practice and look forward to becoming your partner for cardiovascular health.

Patient signature

Date

Printed name

Witness signature

Date

Witness name (printed)