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DRS. BERGHASH & LANZA, P.L. D/B/A
South Coast Ear, Nose & Throat

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BOARD CERTIFIED

December 19, 2011

Dear Colleague:

As season rapidly approaches we wanted to pause and thank you for your continued trust and confidence in our Physicians, Professional Physician Extenders and Practice as a whole. We have immeasurable gratitude toward each of you, your patients and to our entire staff. In this increasingly competitive environment, we appreciate you choosing us. We can state with certainty that we provide state of the art ENT healthcare with professionalism and respect. Full service ENT care is provided in three (3) convenient locations Monday through Friday. We can often accommodate same day appointments as well as offering extended hours on Saturdays in Port St. Lucie.

Earlier this year, we upgraded our Electronic Health Record system to meet "Meaningful Use" requirements as mandated by the Federal Government. We are also proud to be a member of the Strategic Trusted Alliance Reference Program (STAR) with Allscripts as a Reference Site.

Jeffrey M. McFarlane, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner deserves recognition for passing the Certification Examination for Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing earning him the added distinction of CORLN.

Dr. Wright obtained her Board Certification by the American Board of Otolaryngology in June. In addition, she has done an exceptional job expanding the Allergy Department. We provide evaluation and treatment services for patients of all age groups which can include prick and intradermal testing to common aeroallergens in our geographic area, and the use of subcutaneous injections, also referred to as allergy shots to treat those patients who are candidates for immunotherapy. We can also skin test for the most common food allergies in those patients who have a clinical history of food reactions and provide them with education and avoidance measures. The Clinical Staff in our Allergy Department are active members of the American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy and have completed rigorous training courses.

We have welcomed Nicole Leach, MSN, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, with an extensive practice background in allergy, asthma and immunology in both the pediatric and adult populations. She is working closely with Dr. Wright, Amy Bohannon and Aprile dePool, Registered Nurse in the Allergy Department in evaluating, testing and treating our allergy patients, providing patient education and implementing their allergy plan of care.

Drs. Wright and Zeiders are Sub-Investigator and Principal Investigator respectively for a Clinical Study of the Acclarent Tympanostomy Tube Delivery System, a Johnson & Johnson Subsidiary. Drs. Lanza, Wright and Zeiders attended the American Academy of Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery national meeting in San Francisco. Dr. Zeiders presented on the Acclarent Clinical Study and Dr. Lanza co-presented on the study findings of Nebulized Medical Therapy for Chronic Sinusitis with Aaron Hilton, a fourth year student from Florida State University Medical School.

We continue to provide Computed Tomography (CT) scanning of the head and neck and sinuses in our Port St. Lucie Office. We are very proud to announce that we just received a three-year Reaccreditation from the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Computed Tomography Laboratories (ICACTL).

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This distinction demonstrates that we have undergone a thorough review of our operational and technical components by a panel of experts. The ICACTL grants accreditation only to those facilities that are found to be providing quality patient care, in compliance with national standards through a comprehensive application process including detailed case study review. ICACTL accreditation is a “seal of approval” that patients can rely on as an indication that the facility has been carefully critiqued on all aspects of its operations considered relevant by medical experts in the field of CT.

Our Audiology Department is staffed by Masters and Doctorate trained Audiologists with over fifty (50) combined years of experience in the field. A full array of testing is available from hearing tests, hearing aid evaluations and balance testing for patients with hearing loss, dizziness and vertigo. Under the care of our professionally trained Audiologists, we fit and sell state of the art hearing aids to restore and improve quality of life in patients with hearing loss.

Flexible endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES) is a well-known procedure that has advanced the field of dysphagia assessment. These studies are performed in our office and have proven to be an accurate and safe method of testing that provides specific and pertinent data regarding the physiology of the pharyngeal phase of the swallow and airway protection while swallowing. The procedure involves passing a small flexible endoscope along the floor of the nose into the pharynx. This technology allows the larynx, pharynx, and upper esophageal opening to be viewed during the swallow in full color endoscopic imaging. The patient is then provided with different food and liquid consistencies in order to determine safe swallowing function. There is no anesthesia, no barium, and no radiation exposure. FEES provides assessment of common dysphagia symptoms including coughing and choking with meals, vocal related changes when swallowing, gastric reflux, feeling of food or pills sticking in the throat, throat discomfort when swallowing, increased phlegm during meals, and frequent throat clearing with meals. The FEES exam is an excellent component to the complete dysphagia diagnostic process and is performed by Dr. Eric Blicher, our specialty trained Speech Language Pathologist.

We have established the only certified Balloon Sinuplasty (Center of Excellence) office-based facility on the Treasure Coast. By providing these services in-house, patients can avoid general anesthesia and higher associated fees with out-patient surgery. Patients have historically been able to return to their regular activities more rapidly.

All of our Physicians actively participate as Clinical Instructors at the Florida State University Medical School Campus in Fort Pierce. These rotations with medical students provides invaluable one on one mentoring. Our Physicians, Allied Health Professionals and Staff are engaged in numerous academic, clinical research, civic, community and charitable endeavors including; National Committees of the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS), serving on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Board, serving as a member of the Board of Trustees and various Medical Staff committees at St. Lucie Medical Center, serving as Committee Chairperson of the National Medical Society of the Treasure Coast, and devoting time as a Volunteer Physician for HANDS of St. Lucie County just to name a few.

Please feel free to call us for additional information or to schedule an appointment for your patients. You may also direct your patients to our website for valuable educational resources. Visit us at www.otodocs.com. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the care of your patients and appreciate your trust and confidence.

Sincerely,



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