

William M. Thomas, D.C.

A Chiropractic Corporation

June 1, 2011

Dear Patients,

As you may know, there have been many changes in the field of health care. In the past few years, there have been laws passed that affect every health care provider and their patients. One of the most significant laws requires us to implement policies and procedures to ensure patient privacy. In addition, the Health Insurance Portability and Accessibility Act of 1996 (HIPPA) and other recent federal guidelines have made it clear that every doctor should implement "Compliance Programs" which include a review of billing policies to reduce the potential for billing and coding errors and assure that improper discounts are not being offered to patients, especially those covered by the federal government. These steps are designed to help improve the overall access to health care by eliminating potential fraud and abuse of the programs.

Most doctor's offices work to help patients lower their costs by not charging for every procedure, limiting charges, or writing-off charges to help their patients who may be uninsured, underinsured or having difficulty paying for their care. **While this seems like a logical thing to do to assist our patients, the laws and rules have changed and therefore we must make changes in order to be in complete compliance with these regulations.** This means that ALL patients must pay the same rates for professional services unless they are part of an insurance program or network that has negotiated a lower fee on their behalf or are covered by state or federal benefits. While we don't always agree with these regulations, we must comply with the law.

In an effort to continue helping our patients lower their costs for chiropractic care, we have joined ChiroHealthUSA which is a provider network that works with a Discount Medical Plan and allows us to extend significant savings to you and your family. By enrolling in this program, you will have access to lower contracted fees just like many large insurance carriers. The program is very affordable at \$39.00 for the YEAR and it covers you and your legal dependants. This plan is **NOT** insurance and should not replace your insurance. However, it can be used to help lower your costs on non-covered services right along with any insurance you may have. **While our main goal in our practice is to help you get back to normal health as soon as possible, we are also committed to helping lower you overall health care expenses.** ChiroHealthUSA participation allows us to accomplish the goals of compliance and keep care affordable for our patients. Patients who are truly experiencing financial hardships may be eligible for additional assistance.

At the conclusion of your next visit or when you return to our office for care, please be sure to let the receptionist know if you would like to learn more about ChiroHealthUSA. We hope you and your family will take advantage of this program to help lower your health care expense. We sincerely appreciate you allowing us to be of service to you and your family. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,



<http://www.DrTChiro.com>