Important Patient Information

February 2017

Dear valued patient,

It is my great pleasure to share with you that on March 1, 2017, Westchester Health Associates will join Northwell Health and their physician organization, Northwell Health Physician Partners. Westchester Health physicians and staff will continue providing care for you at the state-of-the-art locations where you currently see us.

Westchester Health is committed to delivering excellent community-based medical care that is patient-centered, compassionate and quality driven. Joining Northwell Health Physician Partners will enable us to expand our services and to bring you the best possible care. Northwell Health is a national health care leader with a deep commitment to excellence, compassion and improving the health of the community they serve. Northwell Health Physician Partners has experts in over 100 medical and surgical specialties and cares for patients in Northwell Health’s community and hospital-based practices throughout the greater New York area.

As part of Northwell Health Physician Partners, we will be able to utilize additional benefits including administrative and clinical resources that will allow us to continue our commitment to the highest standards of quality care. We will continue to care for you at all local hospitals including those of Northwell Health and the other local hospitals where we currently provide your care.

In the first few months of our transition to Northwell Health Physician Partners, you will notice a name change. Services will be provided under our new name Westchester Health Medical, PC. We expect that these changes will have a minimal impact on your experience with your doctor’s office. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please let us know by calling (914) 232-1919. Please refer to the back of this letter for additional details.

We also would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the honor you have given us to provide your care. We are committed to exceeding your expectations and welcome your feedback to help us accomplish this for you and your family.

Be well,

Peter Mercurio, MD, FACC
Our transition to Northwell Health Physician Partners may bring about a few simple changes. We are going to explain them to you here.

1. **Hospital care** — If you need hospital care, your care will continue at the same local community hospitals where Westchester Health Associates doctors have provided care to you in the past.

2. **Billing** — For any dates of service prior to March 1, 2017, you will continue to receive the usual statements from Westchester Health Associates. For all new dates of service after March 1, 2017, separate statements will be issued under our new name, Westchester Health Medical, PC. For questions or concerns regarding your bill, please call our customer service line at (914) 232-3255.

3. **Laboratory facilities** — All Westchester Health Associates doctors’ offices use Westchester Health Associates Laboratories, which will become part of Northwell Health Laboratories on March 1, 2017. This will allow us to receive consistent, accurate information for all your laboratory tests and then enter it into our secure electronic medical record. This is important, as there may be times when one of your other doctors will need to review or compare these laboratory test results. Please be sure to double-check that your insurance covers testing at Northwell Health Laboratories. If not, you can have your testing done at a laboratory your insurance covers, and the results will be sent to us.

For additional help, you can call the Laboratories Client Service Department at (516) 719-1100 or visit Northwell.edu/find-care/services-we-offer/laboratories.

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About Northwell Health Physician Partners

We are Northwell Health Physician Partners, a dedicated team of physicians and staff employed by Northwell Health. Experts in over 100 specialties, we work together as a medical group practice that utilizes Northwell Health’s unparalleled resources and world class research. Our group is committed to providing the best in compassionate care, informed by the most current advances in medicine. We are there, when and where our patients need us – in hospitals, outpatient facilities, medical offices, and health and wellness programs.

Our patients benefit from Northwell Health Physician Partners’ close relationship with:

— **Northwell Health hospitals and ambulatory facilities** where the most advanced technologies, resources and treatments are offered.

— **The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research** where groundbreaking treatments are developed and life-changing clinical trials are available.

— **Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine** where our physicians are redefining medical education for the next generation.

We are our patients’ partners in health, continuously raising the standard of care for our patients and their families. Visit us at Northwell.edu/PhysicianPartners.