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In an effort to provide our patients with optimal medical care, we are requesting that as our patient, you take an active role in obtaining appropriate diagnostic studies that may have been performed before your scheduled appointment. These studies include blood work (laboratory studies), x-rays, MRI's, CT Scans, biopsy results (pathologic studies), and consultations and reports by other medical specialists.

Our experience has been that many of these studies that we request which would optimize your care in our office are not available to us at the time of your visit or consultation. The laboratory studies that we order are often sent to your primary care provider without being sent to our office. This situation has been made more difficult by privacy laws (HIPPA) which prevent physicians from sharing medical information without the written consent from the patient. Our patients are under the misconception that all of these studies are readily available to us because we are physicians. Unfortunately this is not the case.

We will continue to make reasonable efforts to obtain your reports before your appointment in our office but we ask the following:

- Do not assume that if you have not heard from our office that all of your studies are normal. We need for you to inquire about these studies in order to ensure that we have received your reports. Please schedule a follow up appointment to review any studies that you undergo after your appointment in our office.
- Please allow adequate time for us to retrieve your results. Please schedule the studies that we order in time for them to be analyzed and available for your appointment. If you schedule these studies a day before your appointment, do not be surprised that they are not available at the time of your appointment.
- If you have copies of your lab results or x-ray, MRI, or CT Scan reports, bring them with you. We will make copies and place them in your chart.
- Please follow the instructions regarding your laboratory and radiographic (x-rays) studies. Please pay attention to the timing of your endoscopic studies such as upper endoscopies and colonoscopies. If you have been advised to reschedule a procedure in several years, please contact our office at the appropriate time to schedule these studies. After years have passed, we may be unable to locate you to remind you to re-schedule such procedures.
- If you must cancel a procedure, be sure to reschedule at you earliest convenience.

We hope that these recommendations will improve the quality of your health care. Please feel free to discuss any questions with your physician in our office.

I acknowledge receiving this information.

Patient Signature

Date