



August, 14, 2008

To our many valued patients,

You will soon be hearing much discussion regarding your options for health care insurance in 2009. We hope you would agree that Athens Medical Group has provided high quality, locally available care in our community for many years. It is with great sadness that we must inform you that during our discussions with Anthem Insurance Companies it became obvious that they do **not** seem to recognize this value in such a way that we can continue to participate as "In Network" providers in 2009.

What does this mean to you? Most importantly, it means we will continue to provide the same services for you and your family when you need us. We will now be considered "Out of Network" providers however, so this will impact your "out of pocket" costs as explained by your individual insurance plan. We will be working on various ways that we can lighten this financial burden to you as much as possible.

We recognize that the ability to find another alternative local "In Network" provider may be very limited. We are also very aware that there will be substantial costs for you to seek your care elsewhere that involve both transportation expenses and time lost from work.

If you feel as we do that high quality, locally available healthcare is a priority for you and your family, we encourage you to contact your employer or Anthem directly and express the critical importance of this to you as well as your clear wish that they resume reasonable discussions with us that will allow this to be an affordable choice for all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Brett Spencer", written over a white background.

Brett Spencer, MD  
Chief Executive Officer