PATIENT ADVISORY/CONSENT FOR MAMMOGRAPHY FOR PATIENTS WITH BREAST IMPLANTS

The following items should be discussed with the patient prior to the performance of a mammogram.

1. Your physician has recommended that you have a mammogram. This procedure is currently the best way to detect a breast cancer that cannot be detected by breast palpation (manual exam).

2. Breast implants can interfere with the interpretation of your mammogram because they obscure some of the breast tissue. One series of films will be done with minimal compression over the implant as close to the chest wall as is possible. Another series of films will be performed with compression over residual tissue after the implant is displaced. This pressure may be uncomfortable but it is essential to the examination.

3. While thousands of implant patients have undergone successful mammography without problems, there have been reports of occasional rupture of the implants that may not be detected immediately and may require surgical replacement. Although our technologists are aware of this possibility and take utmost care in their technique, you should be aware that there is some risk of rupture occurring.

4. Implants that have been in place for a number of years may be more vulnerable. However, since the risk of an implant rupture is far less than the risk of a breast cancer, a mammogram is necessary to protect a woman’s health.

I certify that I or a member of my staff has discussed the above items with the patient and we offered to answer any questions regarding the mammogram. We believe that the patient fully understands the explanation and answers.

Technologists
Signature________________________________________________ Date_________________________

I have read this advisory. Though I am aware of the possible risk of damage to my breast implants as a result of this mammogram, I consent to the procedure.

Patient
Signature________________________________________________ Date_________________________