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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

***HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATES - USING ELECTRONIC RECORDS
FOR OVER TEN YEARS***

The stimulus bill that President Barack Obama signed last week has a \$19 billion section devoted to a national transition from paper to electronic medical records. Always looking for the best and most efficient way to serve our patients, Healthcare Associates in Medicine, P.C. has been using electronic records since 1999. In fact, since 1995, our physicians have recorded their dictations on disk for an easier and more specialized form of reference. When we developed our form of electronic records four years later, we were able to download the dictations from 1995 into our new system. While the rest of the healthcare industry catches up, HCA already has electronic records for 300,000 people on Staten Island alone.

President Obama has made the electronic records aspect a significant building block of his health care reform. These records include prescriptions, MRI's, X-rays and testing results. Electronic records help to provide coordination between the physician and patient by documenting the tests that have been done and those that need to be completed. Essentially, they let the physician know who is doing what, where and when. The President believes that with wider usage, electronic records (or e-records) can cut the costs of doing manual paperwork while simultaneously making the patients record history easier to access. And he is right.

According to a survey done last summer by the New England Journal of Medicine, only four

percent of physicians have an “extensive, fully functional electronic-records system” while only 13 percent have a “basic system.” With an astonishing 83 percent of applicable physicians still using paper documents, Healthcare Associates in Medicine P.C. prides itself on being at the cutting edge of the newest technological developments in the healthcare industry.

Our physicians, who specialize in neurology, neurological surgery, orthopaedics and pain management are the community’s preeminent providers of coordinated neurological, neuromuscular and musculoskeletal services. Dedicated to providing our patients with the very best in medical care, we at Healthcare are committed to the ongoing advancement and development of our specialty services.

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