



## **NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES FOR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

Federal enacted legislation, commonly referred to as THE HIPAA PRIVACY RULE became effective April 14, 2003. The HIPAA Privacy Rule gives individuals a fundamentally new right to be informed of the privacy practices of healthcare providers as well as to be informed of their privacy rights with respect to their personal health information. We are required by law to provide you with this notice to explain these rights and practices.

In the process of providing medical services to you, certain health information will be created that will become part of your record. The HIPAA Privacy Rules requires us to take certain measures to maintain the security of these records. The HIPAA Privacy Rules permits us to use this health information, with certain limits and protections, for treatment, payment and healthcare operations activities. This could include supplying health information to other physicians, hospitals, healthcare facilities or insurance companies and healthcare plans.

We have always considered the clinical record itself to be the property of Balouris Eye Center, PC, but that the information contained in this record to be the property of the patient. If you feel that your clinical record may contain false information, you have the right to review the information. If for some reason you feel that your healthcare privacy has been or might be compromised, please contact our HIPAA Privacy Officer or our Office Manager.