



September 5, 2017

It is my unfortunate duty to inform you that Sierra Pulmonary & Sleep Institute will be **closing as of Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** of this year. Due to forces we cannot control including Medicare requirements, hospital control of the local referrals and numerous other issues with private insurance and declining revenue, we are forced to cease operations and refer our patients to other local and regional providers for their continuing care.

We intend to see as many patients as possible before our close date and provide records and new orders for CPAP supplies or medications. We intend to notify all active patients (those seen in the last 12 months) and provide a copy of all relevant medical records with this mailing. If these records are not received, we can be contacted by email (listed below) or by visiting our website [www.sierrapulm.com](http://www.sierrapulm.com) which will include updated contact information with a link to our medical record request form. .

Most of your prescriptions for items such as CPAP supplies, oxygen and medications are good for a year from your last clinic visit date. ***You will need to establish with a new provider within that 12 months to obtain new orders.*** If you have appointments scheduled after we are closed, in December or January, and would like to see us to renew your prescriptions please email ([info@sierrapulm.com](mailto:info@sierrapulm.com)) or call (775-351-2600) to schedule an appointment. Patients requiring physical prescriptions for controlled medications such as stimulants or sedatives may also contact our office for an appointment to refill those before the closing date. After that, you will need to obtain additional refills from your primary care provider or a new specialty practice.

Our other diagnostic testing and sleep testing facilities will remain in operation until early November, in case patients need additional testing for insurance or referral purposes. Also, attached to this letter is a comprehensive list of local and regional providers in Pulmonary, Sleep and Allergy care, as well as recommended DME support for CPAP users if they choose to pay cash for their supplies. ***Please contact one of these providers as soon as possible to establish care, as the wait list is 4-6 months for new patients currently.***

We appreciate the opportunity to serve so many Northern Nevadans in our 18 years in the medical community and hope you will all find the care you deserve in the coming years even in our absence.

Sincerely,

Michael A Lucia, MD, FCCP

Rachel Brooks, Practice Manager