

PHYSICIAN REFERRAL LETTER

[Date]

Dear Fellow Physician,

I am writing to tell you about a minimally invasive, outpatient treatment for gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) that is now available in **my/our** practice. The Stretta® procedure involves delivery of radiofrequency energy to the lower esophageal sphincter (LES) and gastric cardia, which results in an improvement to the LES muscle and barrier function, reduced transient relaxations of the LES, and a corresponding reduction in reflux episodes. This endoscopic procedure takes approximately 60 minutes and is performed in an O.R. or endoscopy suite with the patient under conscious sedation. Patients go home approximately 1-2 hours after the procedure and typically resume normal activities a few days after treatment.

Clinical studies on Stretta have shown that 86% of patients are off their daily PPIs at 4-years. Most patients experience a significant improvement in GERD symptoms lasting from 4-10 years, as well as a decrease in esophageal acid exposure, and medication requirements.

The Stretta procedure may be an option for GERD patients who have inadequate symptom control on escalated drug therapy or are intolerant of anti-secretory medications and desire a less invasive option than anti-reflux surgery. The Stretta procedure has a significantly lower complication rate than any type of anti-reflux surgery. In addition, for those patients that fail this procedure, surgery remains an option.

I am enclosing clinical materials and a patient brochure. You can also learn more about this procedure at www.stretta-therapy.com. If you have patients that you feel may benefit from this procedure, please feel free to refer them to me for a consultation. In addition, I would be happy to provide you with patient brochures if you would like to display them in your office.

If you have any questions about this new procedure, please contact me.

Sincerely,
