Dear Patient,

The enclosed statement is for pathology services. During a recent care episode, your doctor ordered tests on your blood, urine, body fluid or tissue and your specimen was sent to the laboratory for analysis. The laboratory is directed by a specialist doctor called a ***pathologist***. Pathologists are physicians who specialize in the diagnosis of disease. The pathologist also assures that the results of your tests are accurate and are reported to your doctor in a timely manner.

Though patients generally do not meet their pathologist, it is important for you to understand what a pathologist does for you:

- Pathologists review tissue samples from biopsies and surgeries under a microscope to determine whether or not disease is present and, if so, what kind of disease and what features affect prognosis. The findings are reported to your doctor. This service is called "Anatomic Pathology".

- Over 70% of medical decisions are based on laboratory results. As the Laboratory Director, the pathologist is ultimately responsible for the quality of every one of your test results, which is *essential* to your diagnosis and treatment. The pathologist also consults with your other doctors to answer any questions about what tests to perform and/or the meaning of your results. This service is called "Clinical Pathology".

Like other doctors, we pathologists are highly trained medical specialists. Though we perform crucial work "behind the scenes" and we rarely get to meet our patients, we are absolutely dedicated to providing our patients with expert care.

**Cedar Valley Pathologists** provides Pathology Services to patients of St. Luke's Hospital, Jones Regional Medical Center, MedLabs, Compass Memorial Hospital, Allen Memorial Hospital, Grundy County Memorial Hospital, Sumner Community Memorial Hospital and Waverly Health Center.

You may receive a bill from **Cedar Valley Pathologists** for Anatomic and/or Clinical professional services provided to you by *your* licensed and certified by the American Board of Pathology pathologist.

If you have questions or concerns about your bill, please contact our billing office at 1-800-327-4538.

Sincerely yours,

## Cedar Valley Pathologists

*"Providing Diagnostic Expertise and Clinical Support"*

www.cedarvalleypathologists.com

*Please note: You may also receive a separate bill from the hospital or laboratory for the technical processing of your sample. Though the test descriptions or codes may be the same on both bills, the charges are for different services.*