

Ear Specialty Center

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September 16, 2008

Dear Patients and Colleagues:

I am writing to inform you that I will no longer be able to continue my practice due to recent injuries which I have sustained. As you may have heard, I was injured in a mountain hiking accident which occurred on Mount San Geronio in March of this year. I fell down an icy chute approximately 150 feet and struck my right shoulder on several large boulders. I also suffered a head injury with a loss of consciousness and had to be rescued by the San Geronio Search and Rescue team which took most of the night. Subsequently, I have required surgery to replace my right upper humerus, and have been undergoing extensive physical therapy.

As I am unable to continue my practice, I am providing the following list of specialists for you to consider for follow-up care. Once you have decided on an ear specialist, you may request that your medical records be forwarded. This can be done by visiting the home page of my website (www.earcenter.com).

For cochlear implant medical and surgical issues, the following ear specialists serve the San Diego area and are experienced in Cochlear Implant surgery:

James Bush, M.D (office near Mercy Hospital)..... (619) 229-4903
Jeffrey P. Harris, M.D., Ph.D (office at UCSD)..... (858) 657-8590
Michael Holtel, M.D (office at Sharp Rees Stealy). (858) 621-4090
Michael O'Leary, M.D. (office near Alvarado Hospital)..... (619) 296-1519
House Ear Clinic (Orange County Office) (714) 516-9570

For hearing aid issues, I have arranged for Dr. Marc Kramer to assume my office hearing aid practice as I transition into an affiliated medical field. He is joined by Dr. Angela Barrett, Doctor of Audiology, who has had extensive audiological and hearing aid experience.

For cochlear implant programming, Dr. Providence Alvira, AUD, with whom I have worked for the past several years, has recently taken a part time position with Sharp Rees Stealy and is in the process of establishing a cochlear implant center with Dr. Holtel. She can be reached at 858-939-6621.

For pediatric cochlear implant patients, Dr. Joan Hewitt, AUD, provides extensive pediatric cochlear implant programming support. She has been instrumental in the evaluation and treatment of pediatric hearing impairment and can be reached at Project Talk – phone (760) 634-1553.

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I am ever grateful for your trust over the past several years, and feel fortunate that I have been able to participate in the medical care of so many wonderful patients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Vaughan, M.D." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a distinct 'C'.

John C. Vaughan, M.D.