

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Salem Radiology and Salem Advanced CT Imaging Offer Significant Discounts for High-Deductible and Uninsured Patients

Salem, NH (March 4, 2009) – Salem Radiology, LLP (SR) and its affiliate Salem Advanced CT Imaging (SACT) have redoubled their commitment to offering the highest possible value in medical imaging. While continuing to provide the most comprehensive, state-of-the-art outpatient imaging services to patients and physicians in communities throughout Southern New Hampshire and the Merrimack Valley, SR and SACT have renewed their commitment to providing affordable pricing for those patients and families required to pay out-of-pocket for some portion of their care.

Dr. Robert C. Hannon, a Partner at SR offers the following, "It is hard to imagine that the issue of healthcare costs for American families could be more front and center than it is today. While our practice has always been highly cognizant of the cost of our services for those required to pay out-of-pocket, it is obviously critical in this economic environment that the growing number of patients with high-deductibles or no insurance understand their options. Many of our referring physicians have been very appreciative of our effort to make pricing not only as affordable as possible in these difficult times but also more transparent so there are no surprises. Among our biggest concerns right now is that patients will forego much needed care because of justifiable concerns about out-of-pocket cost. Our hope is that by increasing awareness of this issue that many if not all of these situations will be avoided."

He added, "Patients need to be very discerning when it comes to where they receive their care and what it will cost. Someone affiliated with our practice just got a bill from a hospital for **\$500** for a mammogram. We were the first provider in the Merrimack Valley to provide Digital Mammography and we continue to be a leader in high-tech breast imaging; our price for a high-deductible or uninsured patient if paid at the time of visit is **\$150**. Another colleague received a **\$450** bill from a Boston hospital for a foot x-ray; our time of visit price is **\$35**. While these huge additional cost burdens are obviously a disaster for most people in the best of times, there is simply no longer room for them in 2009."

The most significant discounts are available if payment is made at the time of visit but SR and SACT also offer a variety of discount levels depending on when payment is made. SR and

SACT, understanding that even significantly discounted imaging services can present an unmanageable cost for many, also offer their patients a range of interest-free financing and other payment plan options.

Salem Radiology Selected Pricing ~ 2009

	Our Prices
Procedure	If Paid at Time of Visit*
Chest X-Ray (2 views)	\$35
Knee X-Ray (3 views)	\$35
Sinus X-Ray	\$40
Lumbar Spine X-Ray (with obliques)	\$55
Breast Ultrasound	\$95
OB Ultrasound (< 14 weeks)	\$135
Digital Mammogram (screening)	\$150
CT of Head / Brain (without contrast)	\$230
CT Lumbar Spine (without contrast)	\$265
CT Abdomen (with and without contrast)	\$470
CT Angiography - Neck (with and without contrast)	\$500
Liver Biopsy (under CT guidance)	\$530
CT Abdomen & Pelvis (with and without contrast)	\$800

About Salem Radiology, LLP

Salem Radiology, LLP is a radiology group practice which has served the communities in Southern New Hampshire and the Merrimack Valley Region of Massachusetts for over 30 years. Salem Radiology's main office is located at 23 Stiles Road, Suite 102 in Salem. It has satellite offices in both Methuen (411 Merrimack Street) and North Andover (565 Turnpike Street), Massachusetts. Salem Radiology's physicians also provide professional radiology services to Merrimack Valley MRI and New England PET Imaging in Methuen as well as to numerous other imaging facilities throughout Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Salem Radiology's main office may be reached at 603-893-4352.

About Salem Advanced CT Imaging

Salem Advanced CT Imaging (SACT) is an affiliate of Salem Radiology, LLP (SR) located in SR's flagship offices at 23 Stiles Road in Salem, NH. In May of 2006, SACT became the first provider in the Merrimack Valley region to acquire a 64-Slice CT scanner and today, it remains the only provider in the region to offer this state-of-the-art CT service in a medical office setting.

SACT's scanner not only offers dramatic improvements in speed and accuracy for procedures long-performed on prior generation CT scanners but also offers patients and physicians an innovative "virtual" alternative to exams historically requiring an invasive procedure – primary among them arteriograms (vascular studies).

While SACT offers comprehensive outpatient CT services, perhaps the most frequently profiled advance offered by 64-Slice CT is the ability to non-invasively provide images of the heart and coronary arteries at a level of detail never before seen. SACT's scanner is capable of producing as many as 4,000 detailed images of the heart and coronary arteries through an exam lasting just five heartbeats. The exam, known as Cardiac CT Angiography (CCTA) is a powerful new tool in the fight against Coronary Artery Disease – a leading cause of death in the US. SACT has performed nearly 1,000 of these non-invasive heart studies to date, an accomplishment which places SACT in elite company nationally.

Salem Advanced CT Imaging may be reached at 603-898-3129.