**SAMPLE LETTER FOR PATIENTS**

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Re: COVID-19 Pandemic, Current Medicare Payment System, Impending Cuts of 10.4%, and Fraud and Abuse Investigations: A Perfect Storm is Brewing

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

As a recipient of interventional pain services for some time, I am dependent upon my interventional pain physician for appropriate management of my condition.

Recently, I have become aware of the threats of devastating financial cuts in the Medicare Payment System, as well as compromise to my medical care due to the COVID-19 pandemic and threats to my access to health care due to inappropriate fraud and abuse investigations, especially by private contractors.

There is a potential for 10.4% cuts in physician payments and a 6% cut in facility payments beginning in January 2023.

Therefore, I am asking you to support legislative changes that would reverse these trends by:

1. Adding a 3.75% increase and making it permanent to physician fee schedule conversion factor.

2. Eliminating the 2% sequester completely without budget gimmicks and extending potentially through 2050.

3. Waiving the 4% statutory PAYGO sequester permanently.

I urge you to do everything in your power to intervene on their behalf by implementing the above initiatives.

Thank you,