



**Kettering  
Cardiothoracic & Vascular**  
S U R G E O N S INC.

March 8, 2007

Re: Heart Hugger

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been a cardiothoracic surgeon for over twenty years practicing heart surgery in Ohio. I have used the heart hugger in many of my patients. Recently I underwent a full sternotomy with a cardiac procedure and I learned through my experience the benefits of the heart hugger. The stability obtained by having the chest wall circumferentially supported with the heart hugger was vitally important to me when moving and changing positions. It was of most benefit during coughing and sneezing spells. I wore my heart hugger continuously for two weeks following surgery. At night while sleeping coughing spells were unbearable without it. I now recommend the heart hugger for all of my patients and request that they have it placed soon after extubation.

Sincerely,

Peter M. Pavlina, M.D.

PMP:bnw

*Practice limited to Cardiac, Thoracic & Vascular Surgery*