

Sample Letter – PRIMARY CARE DOC TO PATIENT WITH AVERAGE RISK FOR COLORECTAL

[Letterhead]

[Date]

[Patient Address]

Dear [Patient]:

Your health and safety are our first priority. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, many essential health screenings were delayed, including colorectal cancer screening. As our community begins to reopen, we are ready to get your regular health screenings back on track.

It is time for your colorectal cancer screening.

[Insert practice recommended screening method for patient based on current COVID-19 precautions for your community.]

Colonoscopies are recommended for patients who are at high risk for colorectal cancer due to family history or who have an abnormal result from a stool-based test. A colonoscopy is also recommended for patients experiencing any of the following symptoms: blood in bowel movements, change in bowel habits, abdominal pain, weight loss or unexplained anemia. **If you are experiencing any symptoms or have a family history of colorectal cancer, please let our staff know when you contact our office.**

[Insert language on safety precautions your practice or health system are undertaking to limit the spread of infection.]

Colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. We look forward to getting you up to date with safe screening options that ensure your continued health.

[Insert closing to schedule appointment, ask questions, other action based on recommendation.]

Stay well.

[PCP name]

[SAMPLE PRACTICE STATEMENT ON SAFETY PROTOCOLS DURING COVID.]

Our practice is taking specific precautions to keep patients and staff safe. We are following the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services guidelines for reopening which include: 1) monitoring reductions in local COVID-19 infections, 2) ensuring availability of necessary personal protective equipment (or PPE), and 3) using COVID-19 testing to minimize risk of infection. In office, we have instituted social distancing and infection-risk reduction policies: masks worn by individuals at all times in office, temperature check and survey of COVID-19 exposure for all patients and staff, increased spacing in our waiting room, restriction on visitors, individualized staff workspaces, and enhanced cleaning techniques that minimize cross contamination of equipment and facilities. You will see a difference that keeps our practice and the patients we serve safe.

