Dear [Patient Name]:

Our records show that you have missed or declined your screening colonoscopy. I have assessed you as average risk for colorectal cancer (CRC). Screening is important for early detection, so I have ordered Cologuard®—an easy-to-use, noninvasive colon cancer screening test—for you.

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force guidelines include multiple screening options for CRC screening, including other noninvasive tests.1 In the past, if a patient fits the approved criteria below, I have discussed Cologuard with them and here is why I recommend it.

Cologuard is for patients who are 45 years of age or older at average risk for CRC and due for screening. Average risk can be defined by no history of CRC or advanced adenoma, no family history of CRC, no inflammatory bowel disease, and no hereditary syndromes associated with a high risk of CRC, including familial adenomatous polyposis and hereditary nonpolyposis CRC (commonly known as Lynch syndrome).

Cologuard can be used at home, [allowing for CRC screening to continue even while social distancing practices are in place]. Getting screened with Cologuard is easy. Here is what to expect next:

* You will receive a short phone call from the Cologuard Customer Support Center at Exact Sciences Laboratories to confirm your mailing address and give you more information
* Exact Sciences Laboratories, which is fully operational at this time, will ship the collection kit directly to you
* You will collect a single stool sample in the privacy of your own home—no special preparation is required
* You will return the kit via UPS in the same box it arrived in, and you can even schedule a UPS pickup so you do not have to leave your house
* I will contact you to discuss your results after I receive them from the laboratory

Cologuard is available with no copay/coinsurance or deductible under most insurance plans. It is always a good idea to check with your insurer to confirm how Cologuard is covered for you.

As you may know, colon cancer is the third-most commonly diagnosed cancer in men and women and the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States, taking the lives of about 53,000 Americans each year.2 Despite these facts, colon cancer is one of the most preventable and treatable cancers if it is found in early stages.3 This is why the American Cancer Society recommends that all average-risk adults age 45 and older get screened, even if they have no symptoms and feel healthy.4

[Sign off]

[GI contact information]

**Indications and Important Risk Information**

Cologuard is intended to screen adults 45 years of age and older who are at average risk for colorectal cancer by detecting certain DNA markers and blood in the stool. Do not use if you have had adenomas, have inflammatory bowel disease and certain hereditary syndromes, or a personal or family history of colorectal cancer. Cologuard is not a replacement for colonoscopy in high risk patients. Cologuard performance in adults ages 45-49 is estimated based on a large clinical study of patients 50 and older. Cologuard performance in repeat testing has not been evaluated.

The Cologuard test result should be interpreted with caution. A positive test result does not confirm the presence of cancer. Patients with a positive test result should be referred for diagnostic colonoscopy. A negative test result does not confirm the absence of cancer. Patients with a negative test result should discuss with their doctor when they need to be tested again. False positives and false negative results can occur. In a clinical study, 13% of people without cancer received a positive result (false positive) and 8% of people with cancer received a negative result (false negative). Rx only.

**References: 1.** Bibbins-Domingo K, Grossman DC, U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, et al. Screening for Colorectal Cancer: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. JAMA. 2016;315(23):2564-2575. **2.** Siegel RL, Miller KD, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2020. CA Cancer J Clin. 2020;70(1):7-30. **3.** American Cancer Society. Colorectal cancer facts and figures 2020-2022. Atlanta, GA: American Cancer Society; 2020. **4.** American Cancer Society. American Cancer Society Guideline for Colorectal Cancer Screening. Revised May 30, 2018. https://www.cancer.org/cancer/colon-rectal-cancer/detection-diagnosis-staging/acs-recommendations.html. Accessed March 25, 2020.

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