**Subject:** **Introducing Shield: The More Pleasant Way to Screen For Colon Cancer**

Dear {Patient’s Name},

We are informing our patients who are due for colon cancer screening that we now offer Shield, an FDA-approved test available at our practice.

Shield offers a more pleasant way to screen for colon cancer – with a simple blood draw during your next visit. This means no handling of stool and you can receive your results in approximately two weeks.

The Shield test works by detecting DNA shed by colon cancer in your blood and was proven accurate in one of the largest clinical trials of its kind.1

Shield is fully covered under Medicare Part-B, meaning you will have $0 out-of-pocket costs. If you are not covered by Medicare, you may have an out-of-pocket cost.

Please contact our office so we can schedule a time to share the benefits/risks of all screening modalities and find the option that is most appropriate for you. We look forward to helping you complete your colon cancer screening.

Best Regards,

{Your Name}

{Your Title}

{Contact Information}

{Your Practice Name}

**Important Product Information**

Intended Use

The Shield™ test is a qualitative, in vitro diagnostic test intended to detect colorectal cancer derived alterations in cell-free DNA from blood collected in the Guardant Shield Blood Collection Kit. Shield is indicated for colorectal cancer screening in individuals at average risk for the disease, age 45 years or older. Patients with a positive result should be followed by colonoscopy. Shield is not a replacement for diagnostic colonoscopy or for surveillance colonoscopy in high-risk individuals. This test is performed at Guardant Health, Inc.

Precaution: Based on data from clinical studies, Shield has limited detection (55%-65%) of Stage I colorectal cancer and does not detect 87% of precancerous lesions. One out of 10 patients with a negative Shield result may have a precancer that would have been detected by a screening colonoscopy. Shield demonstrated high detection of Stage II, III, and IV colorectal cancer.

Limitations and Other Important Information: The Shield test is not indicated for patients that have personal history of colorectal cancer, adenomas, or other related cancers; or those who had a positive result on another colorectal cancer screening method within the last six months, have been diagnosed with a condition associated with high risk for colorectal cancer such as Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), chronic ulcerative colitis (CUC), Crohn’s disease; or who have a family history of colorectal cancer, or certain hereditary syndromes. Providers should discuss the most appropriate screening test to use with patients depending on their medical history and individual circumstances. Shield may produce a false negative or false positive result. A false negative result may occur when the Shield test does not detect a colorectal tumor signal while a colonoscopy identifies a colorectal cancer. A negative result does not guarantee the absence of colorectal cancer or advanced adenoma, and patients should continue participating in colorectal cancer screening programs at the appropriate guideline-recommended intervals. A false positive result may occur when the Shield test generates a positive result while a colonoscopy will not find colorectal cancer or advanced adenoma.

Please visit ShieldCancerScreen.com for complete product information about the Shield test including full safety information.

**References** 1. Chung DC, Gray DM, Singh H, et al. A Cell-free DNA Blood-Based Test for Colorectal Cancer Screening. New England Journal of Medicine. 2024;390(11):973-983. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa2304714