### COVID-19 Patient Test Request Emails

Options:

A) Use if testing in the member’s area is reasonably good (3-4 day turn around), then the surgeon can recommend the local PCR testing center of their choice.

B) Use if testing in the member’s area is still not quite up to speed, or unavailable.

Typical option A letter:

Dear Patient:

As you may know, it is important to make sure that you are COVID-free prior to your surgery, in order to help you have the best possible recovery and outcome. Dr. (fill in blank) recommends a COVID-19 test, known as PCR, to be performed the week prior to your procedure. This involves a sample of spit, sputum, or a nasal swab, which is then analyzed by the lab for viral material.

In our area, Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ recommends getting COVID-19 testing done at:

 (Testing site name & address)

We will provide you with a lab slip for this. You will need to make an appointment with the testing center online. (add hyperlink and details)

Please remind the test site to send the results to Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, rather than to your primary care physician.

**We recommend having the test between 5 and 7 days before your surgery, so the lab has time to process the sample and send us the results.**

This testing is essential for you to have your surgery at the time scheduled. If we do not have the test results back, we will have to postpone your procedure.

After testing, Dr. \_\_\_\_ requests that you continue to carefully socially distance up until the time of surgery, and for a week afterwards.

We appreciate your help and understanding with this.

Sincerely,

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_

Typical option B letter.

Dear Patient:

As you know, it is important to make sure that you are COVID-free prior to your surgery, in order to help you have the best possible outcome. Dr. (fill in blank) recommends a COVID-19 test known as PCR to be performed the week prior to your procedure. This involves a sample of spit, sputum, or a nasal swab.

Currently, there is still a shortage of testing available in our area for elective surgery patients. Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has been using a mail-in testing system, in order to work around this shortage.

(insert specific instructions - based on testing service selected, if indicated add hyperlink, and whether the patient needs to order it themselves, or come in to the office for it)

This testing is essential for you to have your surgery at the time scheduled. If we do not have the test results back, we will have to postpone your procedure.

After testing, Dr. \_\_\_\_ requests that you continue to carefully socially distance up until the time of surgery, and for a week afterwards.

 We appreciate your help and understanding with this.

Sincerely,

 Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_