

[DATE]

Dear [PATIENT]:

Your health is important to us and to your loved ones. Since you are over the age of 50, I recommend you be screened for colorectal cancer. As you get older, your chances of getting colorectal cancer go up. Colorectal cancer is cancer of the colon or rectum, and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in Maryland.

The good news is that you can prevent colorectal cancer or detect it early when treatment works best by getting screened before you have any signs of the disease. There are several screening tests available, including simple take home tests that don't require time off of work. One of the other tests, a colonoscopy, needs to be done only once every 10 years for most people. People at higher risk for colorectal cancer may need to be screened more often.

Colorectal cancer screening doesn't have to cost a lot. If you have Maryland Medical Assistance, most of the screening tests available are covered at no cost to you. Many other insurance plans also cover colorectal cancer screening.

If you'd like to know more about colorectal cancer or how to get screened for it, I would be happy to talk with you about it. I hope that you'll schedule your screening test soon. Getting screened is too important to delay and may even save your life. Please call the office today to schedule an appointment to discuss colorectal cancer screening.

Sincerely,