[Date]

Dear patient,

Thankfully, COVID-19 cases are beginning to decline in our county and throughout the state. This means that hospitals and outpatient surgery centers will be resuming surgeries and procedures that may have been delayed due to COVID-19.

If you have delayed medical care, I urge you not to wait any longer. Delaying care could make your condition worse. Please call my office today to schedule an appointment.

As your [physicians/provider/surgeon], I assure you that my office, the hospital and its outpatient surgery center are safe and that steps are in place to ensure your safety and the safety of all employees.

**Hospital/outpatient surgery center safety**

1. **Vaccination of employees**: The vast majority of employees who provide patient care have received both vaccines, and the hospital continues to vaccinate employees and doctors every day. It remains a top priority.
2. **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**: Hospital employees wear appropriate hospital-issued PPE when treating you – for your protection and theirs.
3. **Treatment areas**: COVID-19 patients are treated in isolated areas of the hospital whenever possible, and those who care for them stay in those areas.
4. **Prevention measures:**
* Everyone entering the hospital is screened for symptoms of COVID-19.
* Everyone on the hospital campus is required to wear a mask.
* Hand sanitizer is located throughout the hospital.
* The hospital practices social distancing.
* Hospital surfaces are continuously disinfected with anti-bacterial wipes.
* The hospital has a strict visitor policy to protect you and hospital employees. We suggest our inpatients keep in touch with their families by phone or video chat. Our staff also will keep your family updated if you like. (*Note: As the number of COVID-19 cases continues to decline, hospital visitor restrictions may be lifted. Please visit Providence.org/SoCalVaccine for current visitor policy information.)*

Please do not delay your care. I urge you to call my office today to schedule an appointment. Your health is important and your safety is a priority.

[MD signature]