Dear [Referring Physician],

We’re excited to introduce our new cancer risk assessment program with the goal to further personalize breast care for our patients. Our dedication to early breast cancer detection led us to implement our program to help ensure patients receive the right care at the right time based on their risk factors.

One in 8 women will be affected by breast cancer in their lifetimes. Many women are at higher risk of developing breast cancer but do not know it. Our intention is that through implementing a risk assessment program, our patients will better understand their overall risk of cancer and together we can determine if further actions beyond mammograms are needed.

Risk assessment starting at age 25-30 is supported by multiple medical organizations including the American Cancer Society, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Society of Breast Imaging and the National Consortium of Breast Surgeons.

**OPTIONAL PARAGRAPH:** Research has shown that up to 10 percent of cancers are due to factors that are passed from one generation to the next. These are known as hereditary cancers and there are genetic tests that can be used to determine an individual’s risk for developing these cancers. Our new risk program will provide risk stratification for all patients, enabling us to create personalized breast care plans.

You are an integral part of your patients’ care plans, and we are committed to keeping you informed about our latest offerings and our communications with your patients. As of [Date], all patients entering [Facility Name] will be asked to complete a risk assessment questionnaire either in our office or online in advance of their mammogram appointment.

We are informing patients of this new process in our mammography reminder letters and as they call to schedule mammograms. We are asking them to prepare information about their personal and family health histories before their appointments – a copy of this reminder letter is enclosed. Each patient’s risk assessment score will factor directly into their personalized care plan, of which you will be notified.

Our risk assessment is calculated using the [Model Name] which is the standard of care across many imaging departments. Below are the current recommendations for women at high, intermediate, and average risk of developing breast cancer:

* High risk is defined as a risk score of more than 20%. High-risk patients are recommended to receive a care plan that includes supplemental screening, and depending on their family history, genetic testing to learn if they carry a genetic mutation.
* Intermediate risk is defined as a risk score of 15-19%. Patients in this category may be recommended supplemental screening or genetic testing depending on their family history.
* Average risk is defined as a risk score below 15%. Patients in this category are not usually recommended any screening or testing beyond standard annual mammography.

You will find your patients risk information in the mammography report along with her personalized recommendation. We believe offering a robust breast cancer risk assessment will facilitate early diagnoses and improve disease management. We want to thank you for your support and would like to reiterate our continued commitment to providing high-quality, personalized breast care for your patients. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Best regards,

[Breast Imaging Lead Physician]