**CPT code 99459 Patient Letter Template**

Dear valued patient,

Effective January 1, 2024, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the use of CPT code 99459 to help with the ever-increasing costs of providing healthcare to women, specifically the additional costs associated with the use of a speculum, during a pelvic exam, and the cost of needing a chaperone for most of our exams.

Using CPT language, this code is considered a practice expense add-on code and is added to your

Evaluation and Management (E &M) or problem visit, or your Well Women visit. Unfortunately, commercial insurance carriers often set their own rules and may not pay for this code, therefore, they may pass the cost of this code on to you. In some instances, this cost could be as high as $50.

As you know, the availability of quality women’s healthcare has become more and more difficult to

find. This issue, which is seen in most specialties, has been made worse by the high incidence of

retirements and closures after the public health emergency caused by Covid-19.

We are determined to continue to serve you, our valued patients, despite ever decreasing Medicare

reimbursement as well as double digit inflation. Please understand, we feel this is a cost that should be covered by your insurance company, but if they refuse, the responsibility will transfer to you.

[Care center name]

[Signature]