*Instructions: Please find below recommended text for a letter to your family members. Please read through this template, fill in appropriate information, and make any additional changes you feel appropriate. Additionally, it is recommended that* ***you attach your genetic screening results*** *or informational sheet on your particular mutation. This document will be important for any relatives when they speak with their healthcare provider. This document is only relevant to blood relatives and not “in-laws”. This includes parents, grandparents, children, siblings, aunts, uncles, and cousins.*

Dear **[xx]**,

I am writing to let you know that I have been diagnosed with a hereditary condition known as Lynch syndrome, or Hereditary Non-Polyposis Colorectal Cancer (HNPCC). Lynch syndrome is a genetic (inherited) condition that runs in families and increases the likelihood of developing colorectal cancer and other types of cancer. Since you are a blood relative, you are at risk for Lynch syndrome and could benefit from genetic counseling and possibly genetic testing for Lynch syndrome. It is important to learn whether or not you have Lynch syndrome, as there may be steps you can to reduce your risk of cancer.

Lynch syndrome increases the risk for multiple types of cancers, including colorectal cancer, endometrial or uterine cancer, ovarian cancer, biliary tract cancer, sebaceous skin tumors, and urinary tract cancer. Lynch syndrome is due to errors in certain genes (known as mutations). The specific mutation I tested positive for can be found on the attached document and is the one that members of my family should be tested for. I inherited Lynch syndrome from one of my parents. This means that my [if you have any has brothers/sisters/children put them here] have a 50% chance of being diagnosed with Lynch Syndrome. My other blood relatives, (aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins) may also have inherited Lynch Syndrome.

The first step is to discuss this with your doctor who can provide you with more information about Lynch syndrome screening recommendations and may refer you to a genetic counselor. You can find the genetic counselor closest to you at www.nsgc.org.

For more information about Lynch syndrome, here are some helpful resources:

* Hereditary Colorectal (Colon) Cancer information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/genomics/disease/colorectal_cancer/index.htm>
* The National Cancer Institute at <http://www.cancer.gov/>
* The National Cancer Institute’s information service at 1-800-4CANCER
* Cancer.Net <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/lynch-syndrome>
* Genetics of Colorectal Cancer (PDQ®)–Health Professional Version - National Cancer Institute <https://www.cancer.gov/types/colorectal/hp/colorectal-genetics-pdq>

While it can be concerning to learn that there is a risk for a genetic condition in our family, there are many resources available for families at risk for Lynch syndrome, and I want to help make sure that our family knows about this important information.

Sincerely,

**[ ]**