**Referral Note for Patient**

**Purpose of Recommendation**

When you refer your patient to another healthcare provider (particularly for urgent or emergent situations or lab work), we suggest that you provide the patient (family member, caregiver etc.) a written document with details regarding the referral. This recommendation is based on several major lawsuits OMIC has litigated where the patient has denied being referred for a consultation, even when there was a clear note in the patient’s chart that such a referral was made. We have been able to successfully defend some of these cases, others we have had to settle. However, regardless of the outcome, it was clear the cases were more difficult to defend because of the lack of evidence the patient received a referral note, such as the sample below, or other written documentation of their condition and the urgency of the referral. The sample referral note below is an example of what OMIC considers important information to provide to the patient. This is simply a recommendation and does not constitute a standard of care. You will want to modify this referral note to best meet your patient’s specific needs.

**Version: 11/11/2013**

**REFERRAL NOTE**

**Date:**

**Dr. has referred you to Dr.**

**Please call Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at phone:**

**Reason for referral \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**This referral is:**

 **Emergency**

 **Urgent (24-48 hours)**

 **Timely (1-2 weeks)**

 **When convenient**

**If there are any problems scheduling this appointment, please contact this office. Also, please call our office immediately if there are changes: increased pain, increased redness or decreased vision.**

**COPY FOR CHART**