Dear Provider,

Our mutual patient, __________________________________________ is scheduled for ________________________________________ surgery on ___________. Because our surgery patients plan their lives around the date of surgery and their recovery time, Virginia Mason has specific guidelines for our patients and their Primary Care Physicians (PCP) to follow prior to the date of surgery. Each patient must be seen by their PCP and medically cleared for surgery within 30 days of the surgery date and no later than one week before surgery. The patient’s primary care provider is asked to supply written documentation of:

- H&P to include systems assessment with medical status “okay for surgery” completed within 30 days of surgery.
  
  H&P must include the following seven elements: Titled H&P, Chief Complaint, review of active medical problems, review of systems, medications with dosages, allergies, relevant social and family history and directed physical exam. It must also include an MD signature.

- CBC, PT and Chemistry Panel (and any other pertinent lab tests) completed 30 days prior to surgery date.

- EKG, current within six months of surgery date.

- Above documentation must be faxed to the VM Orthopedic Department at (206) 341-0160 no later than seven days prior to surgery.

- Give patient copies of all above documentation.

Thank you for helping our mutual patient move toward his/her goal of successful surgery and recovery. In the event we do not receive the required documentation seven days prior to the surgery date, the VM surgeon will be required to cancel the patient’s surgery.