

Surgeon's worksheet



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

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To prepare for your discussion with patients to answer their questions about having surgery during the time of COVID-19, use this worksheet to fill in your answers before you meet. Enlist other members of the care team and your facility's administration to answer questions that require their input. Refer to the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Post-COVID-19 Readiness Checklist for Resuming Surgery for additional considerations

Patient questions	Your response
The office visit	
What can I expect when I arrive for my appointment in terms of COVID-19 protective measures?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>
Can I wait inside my car when I arrive for the office visit, or do I have to come inside to check in? If so, what safety measures are in place for check-in?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>
Can my insurance coverage be confirmed before I check in by telephone or computer? Or do I have to meet with a staff member on-site?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>
Will I be with others in a waiting room, or will I be kept in a room away from other patients?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>
Do I need to wear a mask? Will all other patients and staff at the surgeon's office wear masks?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>
Will I ride in an elevator? Is there an elevator policy? How frequently are the elevators cleaned?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>

<p>Will there be physical barriers, such as glass or plexiglass, between staff whom I am speaking with? If not, will they be six feet away from me?</p>	

Before my operation and the day it happens

<p>Will I be tested for COVID-19 and have my temperature taken before my operation?</p>	

<p>Will I be taken into other areas of the facility for testing or exams before the operation begins? Describe that process and what safety measures are in place for patients.</p>	

<p>Who are all the people I can expect to interact with at the facility? How will staff introduce themselves or care for me when they are wearing personal protective equipment?</p>	

<p>Are the staff members I encounter also treating patients who have COVID-19?</p>	

<p>Are patients who have COVID-19 in the same facility as me? If so, what safety measures are in place to ensure we are separated?</p>	

<p>Will I be close to others if I walk through the hallways or other common areas? If so, what safety measures are place?</p>	

The operating room

<p>What special precautions are being taken to ensure the operating room is safe from COVID-19?</p>	

Health care facility management

<p>How has the facility determined that it is now safe to begin scheduling operations?</p>	
<p>Are federal and local government recommendations for facility management being followed according to our current phase of the COVID-19 recovery plan? If so, how?</p>	
<p>How is the facility disinfected, and how often?</p>	
<p>Is everyone who works at the facility having their temperatures taken and being tested for COVID-19? If so, how often?</p>	
<p>Does the facility have enough personal protective equipment for staff?</p>	

After the operation

<p>How will I receive food, if I stay overnight? How is the food prepared?</p>	
<p>As I recover, will having this procedure put me at a higher risk of getting COVID-19? Why or why not?</p>	
<p>Will the presence of COVID-19 in my community change how long I stay in the facility following surgery?</p>	

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Can I have visitors while I recover? If so, how will they be protected while visiting me?	
How will my family receive updates on my well-being?	
How will social distancing impact my recovery from surgery?	

Off-site care

Are telehealth visits or phone calls with a member of my care team an option for me before and after my operation?	
Can home health care services be provided instead of a trip to the facility before or after my operation?	

More questions?

Write your other questions here:
