

COVID 19 Pre-Op Clearance Testing

Policy: To provide COVID 19 pre-op clearance testing.

Purpose: Provide guidance on COVID 19 pre-op clearance testing process, to help protect associates from being unknowingly exposed and determine PPE needs

Process:

1. Date of surgery determined
 - a. Surgery scheduling process takes place as normal
2. COVID test scheduling
 - a. Pre-screening nurses will call family, as usual, to complete pre-screening process. If not previously scheduled by our COVID nursing staff, the pre-screening staff will also schedule COVID 19 pre-op clearance testing and explain location for testing. The tests are mainly scheduled by our COVID nursing staff. The GI lab nurses are responsible for scheduling GI Lab patients and sedated MRI patients for COVID testing.
 - 1). Patient/family will be given a one to two hour time frame between 0800-1200 Monday through Saturday for testing to be completed.
 - 2). Testing will need to be done 72 hours prior to scheduled surgery date.
3. Anesthesia Nurse Practitioners will order the COVID-19 pre-op clearance test using Dr. Nick Hysmith, Infectious Disease or Dr. Barry Gilmore, CMO as the ordering physician.
4. Upon patient arrival to 600 Jefferson, the parent and patient will remain in the car and call a designated number to let the staff know they have arrived. The registration staff will register the patient, notify the nursing staff that the patient is ready and instruct them to come inside for testing.
5. The test specimen will be collected by the COVID testing nursing staff or Anesthesia Nurse Practitioner.
 - a. Full PPE (gown, N95 mask, face shield, and gloves) should be worn by the nursing staff collecting the specimen

6. Specimen will be labeled and stored for transport to Le Bonheur lab for processing. The security staff will pick up the specimens and take them to the lab at 10am, 12pm, 2pm, and 5:30pm.
7. Patient/family will be informed at time of testing that they will not be called if tests are negative and that surgery will be cancelled if test results are positive.
8. Notifications by Anesthesia Nurse Practitioner:
 - a. The Lab will notify the Anesthesia Nurse Practitioners of any positive result (should be done Automatically when results interface since they are ordering provider) The lab has the numbers to call to make the notifications
 - b. Notification of Drs. Gilmore, Eubanks, and Hysmith, Surgeon, Anesthesia and IOC (901-516-0033) for any patient who tests positive by Anesthesia Nurse Practitioners.
 - c. IOC will contact patient/family if tests results positive. The IOC already has a process in place for the notification of positive patients)
 - d. Notification to FedEx Family House of a positive test so they can follow special precautions by Anesthesia Nurse Practitioners
9. Patients living further than 50 miles from Le Bonheur
 - a. For patients in the Tupelo, MS; Jackson, TN; and Jonesboro, AR areas, there is pre-op COVID 19 testing available. The prescreening nurses will schedule those patients for appointments at those locations. The testing at these sites will be Monday – Friday 8am-12pm, except Jonesboro in which testing is only available on Mondays 8am-12pm. A daily e-mail will be sent to allow the sites to know how many patients to prepare for.
 - b. For other patients outside the testing areas, Clinic staff/Prescreening Nurses should offer FedEx Housing for families in need.
 - c. Clinic staff to inform patient of date/time of surgery and that they should expect a call from the pre-screening team to schedule an appointment for COVID 19 testing 2-3 days prior to day of surgery.
 - d. FedEx House Social Worker that calls to confirm FedEx House reservations will screen families over the phone and the family will be screened again once they arrive at the hospital.
10. Test kits are obtained from the lab (swabs, testing vials, and biohazard bags)
11. Urgent and Emergent cases can proceed to the OR without pre-op COVID testing as long as the surgeon documents in Cerner that the case is urgent/emergent and needs to proceed. Appropriate PPE should be utilized.
12. Standard PPE should be used in COVID negative patients.
 - a. Some exceptions for “high-risk” patients may be made.

13. PUI or COVID positive patients

- a. Patient are brought to negative flow OR 22 for anesthesia induction & intubation and then transported to the OR where the surgery will take place.
- b. PACU Room 37 is alternate induction room
- c. Anesthesia and staff wear PPE for aerosolizing procedure for PUI/COVID+ patient
- d. After surgery, the patient is returned to OR 22 for extubation or transported to PICU if remaining intubated.

14. Inpatient Surgical Patients

- a. Hospital inpatients have COVID testing done upon admission to the hospital
- b. Tests collected on floor and sent to lab

15. COVID Re-Test

- a. Inpatients that have a COVID test greater than seven days old, will require a retest if scheduled for a surgical procedure. There are some exceptions to this rule. Anesthesia has waived re-testing in some patients depending on the status of the patient. The attending physician or the anesthesia NP will order the test as needed.
- b. Outpatients will require repeat COVID testing prior to every surgical procedure.

16. COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST CHECKLIST

- Notify Infection Prevention (Dr. Nick Hysmith & Don Guimera), Dr. Barry Gilmore, & Dr. Trey Eubanks
- Notify surgeon of the case
- Notify anesthesia (Dr. Tim Head)
- Notify the IOC (901) 516-0033 and they will notify the patient/family

Remind clinic staff/pre-screening nurses to notify FedEx House staff if patient/family to stay there. The contact person to notify at the Fed Ex House is Cayce Starr, General Manager, 901-647-2027 or Cayce.Starr@lebonheur.org