



COVID-19 Testing Before Your Procedure or Surgery

Why do I have to be tested for COVID-19 prior to my surgery or procedure?

All patients who are scheduled for a surgery or procedure will be tested for COVID-19 no more than 96 hours before the surgery/procedure. This is to make sure you are healthy on the day of your procedure so that you can recover well. We also want to make sure healthcare workers are wearing the appropriate protective gear to protect you, other patients, and themselves.

What does the COVID-19 test involve?

To test you for COVID-19, a small swab will be inserted into your nose to collect a sample from the back of your nose. The test may be uncomfortable and your eyes may water.

When will my results be available?

If you use one of Michigan Medicine's drive-thru testing sites, your results will be available 24 to 48 hours after the test was completed. The result will appear in your portal. If the result is positive, someone from your doctor's office will call you to discuss it. If you are tested at a different location closer to your home, your doctor will work with the testing location to get your result. If it is positive, someone from your doctor's office will call you once the result comes in. In some situations, it may take longer than 48 hours to receive your results.

Will I still have my surgery/procedure if my test results are positive?

Depending on the urgency of your surgery/procedure, the clinic providing the procedure may determine that it is in the best interest of you and the healthcare staff to reschedule for a later date. If the decision is made to proceed with your surgery/procedure, healthcare staff will wear additional protective gear while caring for you.

Do I need to isolate at home between my COVID-19 test and my surgery/procedure?

Yes, we recommend that you isolate at home after your COVID-19 test and monitor for symptoms until the day of your surgery/procedure. This will help ensure that you are not exposed to COVID-19 during this time and will allow us to make the right decisions based on your test result to keep you and the healthcare staff safe. If you must leave your home during this time, wear a mask, wash your hands often, and avoid touching your face.

What can I expect on the day of my surgery/procedure?

You will be screened for symptoms upon entering the building and when checking in for your surgery/procedure. For your safety and the safety of others we ask that you do the following on the day of your surgery/procedure.

- Follow all instructions provided to you to prepare for your surgery/procedure.
- Wear a mask upon entry to the building and remove any gloves that you are wearing. This applies to you and any visitors coming with you to your surgery/procedure. Masks will be provided if you or your visitor need one.
- Use the hand sanitizer available at all entrances to clean your hands.
- Visitors must be symptom-free and must wear their mask at all times while within Michigan Medicine buildings.

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