

# COVID-19: What to Expect When You Have a Procedure

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This handout includes important information you need to know before your procedure and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about COVID-19 Testing.

**For questions, to schedule or for additional information contact:**

- COVID Hotline: (734) 763-6336

**Will I be tested for COVID-19 before my procedure?**

Yes. We want to make sure you are healthy on the day of your procedure so that you can recover well. All patients who are scheduled for a procedure will be tested for COVID-19 before the procedure. We will continue this practice until it is no longer deemed necessary for safety. Pre-procedure COVID testing is still required even if you are fully vaccinated.

**When will I be tested?**

You will be tested 48 to 96 hours before your procedure. This allows enough time for you to have the test and get your result before the procedure. It is also close enough to your procedure time that your risk of being exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the community in the time between the test and your procedure is decreased. Test results are only good for 96 hours before your procedure date and time. Many patients will have to repeat the test before their procedure.

**Where will I be tested?**

At the time of scheduling the medical procedure unit staff will help you choose a Michigan Medicine location or a location closer to you. You will need to have an appointment at the drive-thru site to be tested. You can also look for local facilities with the Michigan Medicine COVID testing locator:

<http://michmed.org/xoWVR>.

## **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.

## **How do I make sure I don't get COVID-19 between the test and the procedure?**

We strongly recommend that you isolate yourself from others in the time between your COVID-19 test and your procedure. This will give you the best chance of staying healthy on the day of your procedure.

Isolating yourself means:

- You stay home, and stay in a different room from others in your home as much as possible
- You do not go:
  - Outside where you live
  - Out in public
  - Outdoors
  - To the store
  - To parks
  - To work
- You should wash your hands often and avoid touching your face.
- Wear a mask when traveling to and from both the testing site and your procedure.

## **FAQs: Drivers**

### **Can my driver stay with me before my procedure?**

If you are having a procedure which requires sedation, you must have a responsible adult companion to drive you to your appointment and help you check-in. Your driver will receive a paging device and be encouraged to practice social distancing by visiting the cafeteria, going for a walk, or waiting in their car while your procedure is performed instead of waiting in the waiting room. Drivers will not be allowed to accompany you to the pre-op area.

### **Where should my driver go during the procedure?**

Your driver must follow the same rules for all persons in the building. The rules include wearing a mask and staying at least 6 feet from others. Staying this distance from others may mean there is not enough room in the waiting area for drivers. Your driver may want to walk the halls, visit the cafeteria, or wait in their car. They should keep the pager they received at check-in with them at all times.

### **Can my driver be with me after my procedure?**

Your driver will receive a notification when it is time for your discharge and they will join you then. Your healthcare team wants to give you your discharge instructions and make sure you understand them. Some patients are more awake than others after a procedure. If your care team has any concern that you are not awake enough to understand the discharge instructions, they will meet with your driver to go over the discharge instructions before you leave.

## **FAQs: Safety**

### **What if my procedure is delayed, or takes longer than expected?**

At Michigan Medicine our first priority is patient safety. There may be delays if

we will need to spend extra time with a patient or a procedure is taking longer than planned. Patient safety includes a clean, sanitized space for patient care, which can also cause delays. We appreciate your patience and understanding. If you have questions about a delay, please visit the check-in desk for an update.

### **Will the cleaning process kill the COVID-19 virus?**

Yes. The process for cleaning and sanitizing all equipment used in the procedures areas kills the COVID-19 virus.

### **Will I be protected from catching COVID-19 from the staff caring for me?**

Yes. Your safety is important to us. The personal protective gear (PPE), such as gowns, gloves, and masks, that the staff wear will protect you from catching COVID-19.

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### **Where can I learn more?**

The following websites provide excellent instructions on COVID-19:

#### **Michigan Medicine:**

- Keeping Our Patients Safe During COVID-19:  
[www.uofmhealth.org/coronavirus/keeping-patients-safe](http://www.uofmhealth.org/coronavirus/keeping-patients-safe)
- Seeking Medical Care During COVID-19:  
<https://www.uofmhealth.org/coronavirus/seeking-medical-care-covid-19>
- Michigan Medicine Patient Education Page at:  
<http://careguides.med.umich.edu/coronavirus>
- Michigan Medicine Coronavirus Updates page at:  
<https://www.uofmhealth.org/covid-19-update>

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**Other resources:**

- CDC Coronavirus website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>
- State of Michigan Coronavirus website at:  
<http://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus>

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Edited by: Karelyn Munro BA

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