

For your health, and for the safety of staff, we want to ensure you minimize your chance of getting COVID-19 in the time leading up to your procedure or surgery. Please follow the instructions below to help you minimize your risk.

SELF-ISOLATE

Self-isolate for 14 days before the day of your procedure or surgery (or as long as possible, if there are less than 14 days before your surgery). More information on self-isolation is available through [Public Health Ontario](#). If you are currently working, there are strategies available to promote work self-isolation. Public Health Ontario has a fact sheet that will assist you with these strategies. You are not expected to take this time off work leading up to your surgery.

HYGIENE

- Wash your hands often for at least 15 seconds.
- Disinfect commonly touched surfaces.

MONITOR SYMPTOMS

Immediately notify your Surgeon if you or your household or close contacts develop any [COVID-19 symptoms](#) or are diagnosed with COVID-19.

PRE-OPERATIVE COVID-19 TESTING

If you need a pre-operative COVID-19 test, the OR Booking Clerk will schedule you for a test approximately three days before your surgery. You will be provided an appointment time to attend the day surgery unit on the second floor. You do not have to register for this appointment. You must enter through the main doors of the Hospital, and you will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19, asked to wash your hands, and put on a Hospital-provided medical mask. The COVID-19 swab appointment will be approximately 10 minutes.

After you have had your COVID-19 test, you are required to self-isolate until the day of your surgery. During this period of self-isolation, if you interact with anyone at any time, you and the other person must both wear a mask or face covering.

DAY OF PROCEDURE OR SURGERY

- Plan to have someone plan drop you off at the main entrance.
- Do NOT bring any personal belongings in with you. A housecoat and slippers will be provided for you.
- Self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.
- You must enter through the main doors of the hospital and you will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19, asked to wash your hands and wear a medical mask.
- You will then proceed to Admitting Department to register for your procedure.
- Proceed to the lab or x ray department if you have been instructed to do so by the Day Surgery Staff.

Staff will contact your family or support person when you are ready for discharge. The staff will assist you to the main entrance of our Hospital, as required.

VISITORS

In order to ensure the safety of our patients and staff, St. Joseph's General Hospital is limiting the number of visitors in our Hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic. Family members or companions will not be able to accompany you on the day of surgery, except in special circumstances. If you require someone to assist with consent or decision making for a procedure, they may attend your surgery with you. These Special circumstances can be reviewed with the Nursing team on the Day Surgery unit or the Patient Care Manager, Leslie Chambers.

We understand that this is a difficult change, but it is an important precaution put in place to ensure the safety of all those in our Hospital, including our sickest and most vulnerable patients.