

# Clinical Brief #38 | COVID-19

Developed Thursday, July 30, 2020

## **INFORMATION FOR ALL CLINICIANS**

Clinical leaders are providing frequent updates to all clinicians in an effort to keep you current about AdventHealth's response to COVID-19. The following topics are included in this brief:

- **Testing Guidance for Asymptomatic Pre-Op/PAT and Cyclic Patients**
- **CDC Guidance on Facility Entry for Patients and Visitors**
- **Updates to the Team Member or Health Care Provider (HCP) Exposure Guide**
- **Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGP) Signage**
- **Updated CDC Interim Guidance: Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19**

## **Testing Guidance for Asymptomatic Pre-Op/PAT and Cyclic Patients**

Asymptomatic testing guidance for pre-op/PAT is as follows:

### **If the COVID-19 test is negative:**

- Retest only if procedure does not occur within seven-day window of remaining asymptomatic

### **If the COVID-19 test is positive:**

- No retest necessary
- Reschedule after a minimum of 10 days for most patients, or 20 days for severely immunocompromised patients per CDC guidelines
- Inform patient if symptoms develop; contact primary care physician

Asymptomatic testing guidance for cyclic patients is as follows:

For cyclic outpatients, testing is recommended only for procedures in which a positive test result will affect management; i.e., higher risk to provider (e.g., AGP requiring COVID-19 PPE) or to patient (reschedule, counseling risk vs benefits).

- COVID-19 test is negative: retest every 14 days
- COVID-19 test is positive: if rescheduling, follow the guidance for pre-op/PAT

## **CDC Guidance on Facility Entry for Patients and Visitors**

Instruct all **patients and visitors** upon entry to:

- Wear a **face mask** while in the facility

- If a **patient** is unable to wear a face mask, offer an accommodation such as tissues to cover the mouth and nose, a private closed room or to wait in car. Please see [CDC guidance](#) for further information.
- If a **visitor** is unable to wear a face mask, offer an alternative such as a virtual visit. The [Visitor Request for Mask Alternative](#) form can be used for this process at your facility's discretion.
- Perform frequent hand hygiene
- Only move around the facility when medically necessary

Assess **patients and visitors** upon entry for:

- Fever
- [Other COVID-19 symptoms](#)
- Self-quarantine status
- The [Patient and Visitor COVID-19 Screening](#) form can be used for this process at your facility's discretion

Limit **visitors** to those approved by the [Acute Care Visitation Guidelines](#) who are providing physical or emotional support.

## Updates to the Team Member or Health Care Provider (HCP) Exposure Guide

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently changed their guidance for return-to-work strategies for symptomatic team members. Our Team Member or Health Care Provider (HCP) Exposure Guide has been updated accordingly, outlining the latest symptom-based clearance requirements and considerations on page two of the document in the red "Positive" box. Additionally, page one was updated to include a note about testing guidance in the high-risk exposure recommendation, as well as a new recommendation at the bottom of the chart for asymptomatic HCPs who do test positive.

The updated exposure guide has been uploaded to the Novel Coronavirus Information Site [here](#). It can also be found by navigating to the Team Member Resources or Leader Resources Exposure tiles. Please refer your teams to this version moving forward.

## Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGP) signage

Two patient room door signs are now available for use during AGP:

- [Ongoing Aerosol Generating Procedure Precautions](#) which provides guidance on appropriate PPE for both visitors and team members
- [NO VISITORS: Aerosol Generating Procedure Precautions](#) indicating visitors to not enter the room at this time

## Updated CDC Interim Guidance: Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19

Accumulating evidence supports ending isolation and precautions for persons with COVID-19 using a symptom-based strategy, except for rare situations. This [CDC updated guidance](#) incorporates recent evidence to inform the duration of isolation and precautions

recommended to prevent transmission of SARS-CoV-2 to others, while limiting unnecessary prolonged isolation and unnecessary use of laboratory testing resources.

Patient Status	Discontinuation Criteria
Asymptomatic and not severely immunocompromised	At least 10 days have passed since date of first positive viral test
Asymptomatic and severely immunocompromised	At least 20 days have passed since date of first positive viral test
Mild-to-moderate illness and not severely immunocompromised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared <b>and</b></li> <li>At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications <b>and</b></li> <li>Symptoms have improved</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe or critical illness <b>or</b></li> <li>Severely immunocompromised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 20 days have passed since symptoms first appeared <b>and</b></li> <li>At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications <b>and</b></li> <li>Symptoms have improved</li> </ul>

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**We encourage you to take care of yourself, your families and each other** as we move through this ongoing response to COVID-19.

## **GREATER AS A WHOLE | RESOURCES**

### **Online**

[Novel Coronavirus Information Site](#)

[AdventHealth Coronavirus Website](#) | [Videos](#) | [Blog](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

**Department of Health:** [Florida](#), [Georgia](#), [North Carolina](#), [Kansas](#), [Kentucky](#), [Texas](#), [Wisconsin](#)

**Worldwide Coronavirus Data:** [Johns Hopkins' global cases webpage](#)

### **By Email:**

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