SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR SURGERY & PROCEDURES





Testing Every
Patient for COVID-19
Before Surgery



Rearranging Waiting Areas for Social Distancing



Staff & Patient Symptom Screenings



Hand Washing & Sanitizing Locations Readily Available



Staff & Visitors Are Given Masks upon Arrival



Increased Cleaning of High Touch Surfaces

The safety of our patients and staff is our top priority. In response to COVID-19, we have implemented new protocols and precautions to ensure your safety when you come to Virginia Hospital Center for surgery or a procedure.

Is it safe to have surgery or a procedure at Virginia Hospital Center (VHC) now?

Yes. VHC has consistently achieved national recognition for excellent care and has always adhered to best practices for patient safety. During this challenging time, VHC has taken extra precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19 and provide the safest possible environment for patients and staff. Throughout the pandemic, the Hospital has continued to safely perform essential surgeries and procedures for patients with cancer, heart, stroke and other health conditions—as well as delivering babies at our normal rate.

How will VHC ensure my safety while I'm in the Hospital?

Our infection prevention practices and protocols are designed to protect our patients, visitors, physicians and clinical staff. Without exception, everyone is screened prior to entering the Hospital, physician offices or clinics. Protocols include temperature screening, as well as asking about potential COVID-19 symptoms, contact with persons infected with COVID-19 and recent travel. All visitors are required to wear a Hospital-provided surgical mask for the duration of their visit. If you are having a surgery or procedure that requires you to stay overnight in the Hospital, you will be placed on a separate unit from patients with COVID-19.

Will I be screened for COVID-19 before my surgery?

Prior to your surgery or procedure, a VHC clinician will reach out to ask if you are having any possible symptoms of COVID-19. When you arrive at VHC on the day of your procedure, we will administer a rapid-result test for COVID-19 as a precautionary measure. If the test result is positive, your surgery or procedure will be rescheduled for a later date.

May a family member or friend accompany me to VHC the day of surgery and visit me afterwards?

To protect our patients and staff, all in-person visitation has been suspended with limited critical exemptions:

- Patients having a surgery or procedure may have one person to assist post-procedure.
- Pediatric patients may have two parents/guardians.
- Patients who have altered mental status or development delays, where a caregiver provides safety, may have one visitor.

Is it better to postpone my surgery until the COVID-19 crisis is over?

National medical experts believe that we will continue to be affected by COVID-19 for many months to come. With any planned surgery or procedure, you and your physician must weigh the risk of delay with the benefit that can be achieved by moving forward with treatment. Put your health first. You can have confidence and trust that VHC is doing everything we can to ensure your safety when you come to our Hospital.