

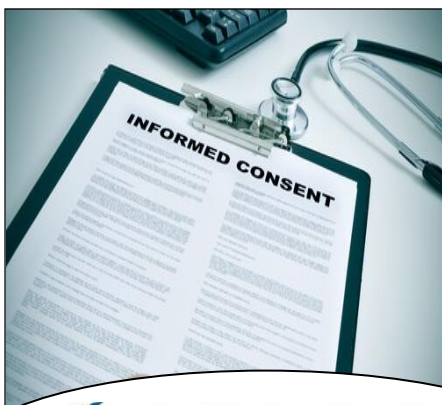
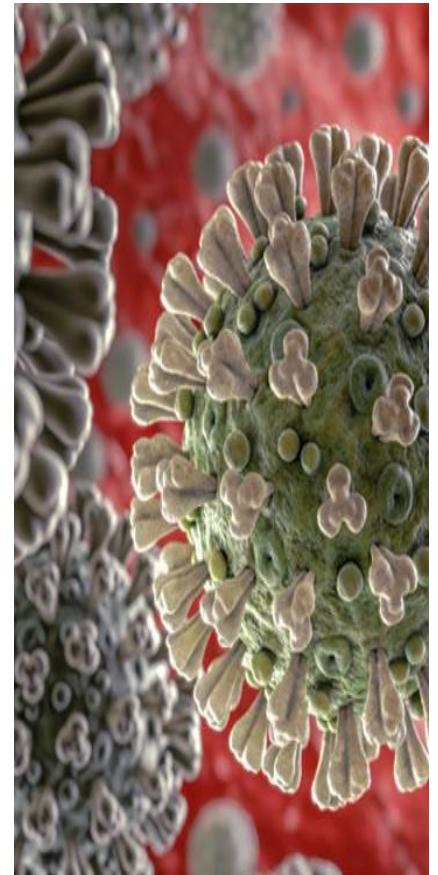


UNDERSTANDING THE NEW COVID-19 INFORMED CONSENT FOR NON-EMERGENT PROCEDURES

In order to support those providers who are restarting non-emergent cases after suspension during the current public health emergency, Catholic Health is requiring clear and deliberate communications relating to COVID-19 in addition to the normal customary informed consent discussions.

A discussion specific to the risks of COVID-19 must be held with patients undergoing non-emergent cases, focusing on the infection control measures currently in place to ensure patient safety while also acknowledging a patient's risks of becoming infected by virtue of proceeding forward with surgery for a condition that is not life-threatening or otherwise immediately necessary.

Procedural providers have the option of completing this document with patients as an additional step to the normal informed consent process. Nursing staff shall determine if the patient has completed this consent during preoperative testing and, if not, they shall have the patient sign the consent and then document that they witnessed the signature.



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WHEN DISCUSSING WITH A PATIENT...

- Ask the patient if they have specifically discussed the risks of COVID-19 with the procedural provider
- Refer procedure-specific questions to the provider
- Ensure that the patient understands the current infection control processes in place at the hospital, i.e. mandatory preoperative testing to rule out COVID-19
- Notify the procedural provider if the patient does not understand or voices concerns regarding the risks of infection due to their decision to undergo surgery