



TO: Catholic Health Medical Staff
FROM: Dr. Kevin Shiley, Infection Prevention and Control
DATE: June 30, 2020
RE: Updates to Covid-19 Perioperative Policy

The following changes were made to the Covid-19 perioperative policy to align with recent changes in NY regulations and CDC guidance related to isolation after diagnosis:

- Tier1 (elective cases) must be delayed pursuant to travel guidance associated with quarantine orders issued by local, State or Federal entities.

The current NY state governor's order, which took effect on June 25, 2020, requires that individuals travelling from any state with a seven day rolling average case rate greater than 10/100,000 or 10% test positivity rate must maintain quarantine after entering New York State until 14 days have elapsed from arrival. An updated list of states meeting this threshold can be found at:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/Covid-19-travel-advisory>

- Preoperative Covid-19 testing should be completed no more than **5 days** prior to the procedure date. *This is a change from prior NY state regulation that restricted testing to no longer than 3 days.*
 - Patients who have a confirmed positive antibody test will still require Covid-19 testing prior to the procedure per NY state guidance.
 - If a patient tests negative for Covid-19 on admission to the hospital and remains hospitalized greater than 5 days it is not necessary to retest them for Covid-19 prior to their surgery/procedure unless clinical suspicion arises.
- Patients that test positive during pre-procedural Covid-19 testing that are able to be rescheduled may undergo the procedure once they have met the following criteria:
 - resolution of symptoms, *and*
 - are fever free for at least 72 hours off of antipyretics, *and*
 - at least 14 days have passed from the date of diagnosis.
 - If the patient did not develop any Covid-19 symptoms but tested positive, they may not be re-scheduled until at least 14 days have passed from the positive test date.
- Patients with positive pre-operative screening tests for Covid-19 will not be required to have repeat testing completed prior to the rescheduled procedure as long as the criteria outlined above are met. In accordance with DOH and CDC guidance, the patient is considered recovered and non-infectious if asymptomatic and 14 days have passed from the positive test.