COVID-19 Testing for Procedures

March 01, 2023, Wednesday

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has updated the requirements for COVID-19 testing for certain patients undergoing procedures. The following are **effective as of today, March 1**, for patients having procedures in the main operating room, a major procedural area (cardiac catheterization, electrophysiology, endoscopy, and interventional radiology), and procedures that require at least moderate sedation.

- **Update: Asymptomatic patients undergoing ambulatory procedures do not require SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) testing.**
- **Update: Vaccination status and high-risk exposure are no longer required indications for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) testing for ambulatory and same-day admission patients undergoing procedures. Testing in these patients is at the discretion of providers given the clinical situation.**
- Same-day admission patients and those who are at high risk for conversion to admission after their ambulatory procedure must undergo COVID-19 PCR testing at least two days but no longer than five days before the day of the procedure.
- 23-hour admission patients are not considered ambulatory and require COVID-19 PCR testing for at least two days but no more than five days before the day of the procedure.
- Inpatients require a COVID-19 PCR test either within 72 hours before arrival or during their admission.
- All patients presenting for procedures should continue to be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 or other highly infectious diseases. Patients who confirm new onset symptoms consistent with a highly infectious disease should be referred for evaluation by the provider.

For more information, including the full policy, please go to the following webpage: www.mountsinai.org/preop

Vicki LoPachin, MD, MBA
Senior Vice President
Chief Medical Officer
Mount Sinai Health System

Amanda J. Rhee, MD, MS
Medical Director of Patient Safety
Mount Sinai Health System

Bernard Camins, MD, MSc
Medical Director for Infection Prevention
Mount Sinai Health System