

Pre-Procedure Safety Messaging

Elective Surgery Now Approved

As of June 9, 2020, the state of New York is now allowing elective surgeries which were halted due to the COVID-19 crisis to resume. Elective surgeries can now take place at all Mount Sinai Health System hospitals, doctor's offices, and ambulatory surgery centers. Teams from across the Health System are working to ensure a safe environment, so that patients can be confident in coming in to get the care they need.

For Your Safety:

- To minimize your exposure to COVID-19, please limit all activities outside your home to necessary medical appointments only for up to 14 days. Please also avoid close contact with friends or family that may have had exposure to COVID-19.
- All patients must be tested for COVID-19 before their procedure.
- Patients will also be screened for COVID-19 symptoms upon arrival for the procedure.
- Your surgeon/proceduralist may arrange for visits with medical doctors or order preoperative tests to prepare you for your procedure. Testing may include blood testing, x-rays, and electrocardiograms.
- We are now welcoming visitors into our hospitals with guidance from New York State. Please visit our website at mountsinai.org for the most up-to-date information.
- You may be required to have someone drop you off and pick you up. You will be provided assistance if you have difficulty walking.
- Upon arriving please notify the security guard that you are there for your surgery or procedure. They will direct you to check in, where you will later be escorted to the operating room.
- All of our patients who are being treated for COVID-19 are isolated from others.

In addition, what can I do to stay safe before and after the procedure?

It is critical that you take the following precautions whenever possible in the 14 days prior to and after your procedure. The simplest, most scientifically proven prevention methods include:

- Informing your doctor immediately if you have any contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 or a person with symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19 or if you develop any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or get a positive test result for COVID-19
- Symptoms include: cough, fever (>100° F.), shortness of breath, body aches, chills, general

fatigue, and recent loss of sense of taste or smell

- Social distancing of at least six feet between people when possible
- Minimizing interaction with other people except as necessary
- Avoiding any close contact with people who are sick with COVID-19 symptoms
- Frequent hand-washing or sanitizing for at least 20 seconds each time, especially before and after eating, touching the face or nose, and putting on and taking off face masks or coverings
- Reminding people caring for you to wash their hands (e.g., before changing surgical dressing)
- Regular and frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces (e.g., doorknobs and bathrooms)
- Always wearing a face mask or cloth to cover nose and mouth when outside the home

May I bring a companion with me on the day of admission?

We are now welcoming visitors into our hospitals with guidance from New York State. Please visit our website at mountsinai.org for the most up-to-date information. Please be sure to provide a name and phone number for a loved one or caregiver so we can be in touch about your status and progress. Make sure you have arranged for rides if needed. You will be provided assistance if you have difficulty walking.

How will my loved ones know how my surgery went?

- The surgeon and team will call and speak to the person you designated to discuss your surgery. Please be sure to provide a name and phone number so we can be in touch about your status and progress.
- Family members and friends may call the [**Department and Phone Number**] for updates.