COVID-19
FAMILY AND CAREGIVER EDUCATION AND PROTOCOLS

CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE BREAST SURGERY

ST. CHARLES SURGICAL HOSPITAL

THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELL-BEING OF STAFF, PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS REMAIN OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY.

We recognize concerns surrounding the Coronavirus, or COVID-19 as you prepare for surgery. We want to provide reassurance that COVID safety remains a high priority and we continue to follow the guidance of the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Under the guidance and recommendation from both the CDC and the Department of Health, St Charles remains committed to providing patients and caregivers with a safe surgical stay.

In an effort to clarify the requirements and recommendations that apply to your stay we are providing a summary of the various processes in place to help reduce the risk of transmission of SARS-CoV-2, as well as other common viruses.

PRE-OPERATIVE COVID SCREENING

All patients scheduled for surgery will be screened for exposure to COVID-19, and for symptoms within the prior two weeks before surgery:

· fever or chills,

· new onset or worsening of chronic cough,

· shortness of breath,

· muscle/body aches,

· sore throat,

· headache,

· extreme fatigue,

· congestion/runny nose.

Patients with COVID-19 related symptoms or a known exposure will be tested and evaluated by Anesthesia. If positive COVID-19 test, surgery will need to be rescheduled. If negative result with symptoms, Anesthesia and surgeon will discuss the best surgical plan for patient, which may include rescheduling surgery.

FOLLOWING YOUR PRE-OP VISIT

· Practice frequent Hand Hygiene by washing your hands with soap and water and using sanitizer

· Avoid crowded areas and sick people

· Practice social distancing when you do need to get out in public

· Notify your surgeon if you develop COVID symptoms or have a known COVID exposure before your surgery

PATIENT SAFETY MEASURES AND GUIDELINES

Once COVID-19 pre-op screening is completed, it is important that you monitor symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and/or known COVID-19 exposure that should be reported to your surgeon's office immediately.

CAREGIVERS/VISITORS

We understand the important role that friends and family play in recovery, but find it necessary at this time to limit the number of visitors per patient. Visitation is limited to a total of two visitors at a time with the designated caregiver considered one of the two visitors. Out of abundance of caution and to promote safe patient recovery, we ask that caregivers and visitors be aware of any known exposure to COVID or symptoms of COVID they may develop that would restrict them from visitation.

ARE MASKS REQUIRED?

Patients and Visitors at the hospital and clinic may now enter and receive services without wearing a mask. Patients and visitors may make the personal choice to mask and also request that any member of our team wear a mask during interactions.

CAREGIVER SAFETY MEASURES AT HOSPITAL

· Wash hands with soap and water and use hand sanitizer

WORKING TOGETHER

All rooms and common areas are cleaned frequently with medical grade sanitizers and disinfectants as part of our comprehensive infection prevention protocol. Our housekeeping staff will pay close attention to cleaning “high-touch” surfaces such as phones, remotes, handrails and bedside tables.

We welcome your questions and commit to keeping you informed of changes as we receive updates from agencies guiding hospital practices.