Safely Returning to the Hospital for Surgery

Your health and safety are our very highest priority. We take infection prevention very seriously and follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Here is what you can expect if you need surgery at Sibley Memorial Hospital.

**WHAT WE’LL DO**

1. **TEST AND SCREEN PATIENTS**
   Screen and test you for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure prior to your surgery. If you test positive, your surgeon will advise you on next steps. *(Testing must be done within 72 hours of surgery.)*

2. **FOLLOW SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**
   Screen our staff for symptoms daily. Our medical staff and employees wear personal protective equipment and clean their hands frequently and thoroughly. We also clean and disinfect waiting areas, operating rooms and equipment between each patient.

3. **COMPLETE YOUR REGISTRATION BY PHONE**
   A member of our patient access team will call you on the phone number provided in the days prior to your surgery to complete the registration process. This will reduce the time you spend waiting the day of your surgery.

4. **KEEP YOU SAFE DURING YOUR STAY**
   If you will need to stay in the hospital after surgery, we will take all the same safety precautions during your stay, including ensuring staff are wearing personal protective equipment, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently.

5. **KEEP IN TOUCH**
   Keep your family members or support persons informed and contact them when you are ready to go home. We will provide an overview of all discharge and care plans before you leave.

**WHAT YOU’LL DO**

1. **COME TO SIBLEY FOR TESTING**
   Sibley staff will contact you to schedule an appointment for COVID-19 testing at Sibley. Follow the instructions provided by the scheduler to arrive on time for your test.

2. **FOLLOW PRECAUTIONS BEFORE SURGERY**
   After your COVID-19 test, isolate, keep your distance from others and practice precautions such as wearing a mask and cleaning your hands frequently in the days prior to your procedure.

3. **CALL US IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP**
   If you develop symptoms of COVID-19 or other illness, or have been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, call your surgeon for guidance.

4. **ARRIVE AT SIBLEY**
   When you enter the hospital, you will stop at the screening desk near the entrance where a staff member will conduct a quick, verbal screening for COVID-19 symptoms and direct you to the pre-operative area. Keep six feet or more distance between you and others while you wait to be called to prepare for surgery.

5. **REST AND RECOVER**
   Take time to rest and recover and be assured that Sibley is taking every precaution to keep you safe.

We take your safety seriously. If you have any questions, please ask a member of our staff. Thank you for choosing Johns Hopkins Medicine and Sibley Memorial Hospital for your care.