



Important Information for Our Surgical Patients

A lot has changed in the past few months, and we want you to know that our highest priority is providing you with exceptional care and keeping you safe. Scripps has put numerous precautions in place, all designed to protect you, so you don't have to delay your care. These include:

Pre-surgery COVID-19 testing: Based upon the nature of your procedure, you may be required to take a COVID-19 test 1-3 days prior. This is so we have all the information necessary to ensure the safety of all involved.

Screening for symptoms: All who enter a Scripps facility are subject to screenings for COVID-19 symptoms and screened during appointment reminder calls.

Separating patients with COVID-19: Patients with COVID-19 symptoms are often consulted via telehealth and directed to drive-thru testing. If they are admitted to a Scripps hospital, they are taken to an isolated area dedicated to COVID-19 care immediately upon arrival and isolated from other patients.

Wearing masks: All Scripps staff members are required to wear masks and additional necessary protective equipment as appropriate. Patients and permitted visitors are required to wear a face covering when entering a Scripps facility and should bring their own. Masks with small plastic valves will not be permitted. While they protect the wearer, they do not protect others.

Deep cleaning and disinfecting: Areas such as waiting rooms, lobbies and restrooms are cleaned often with special attention to frequently touched surfaces including doorknobs, armrests and handrails. Operating rooms, patient rooms and exam rooms are fully cleaned and disinfected between each patient.

Physical distancing: In order to support physical distancing, you may see markers on the floors to show where people should stand for check-in and check-out, and we have rearranged furniture in some waiting areas to create more space between patients.

No-visitor policy: We believe families and other loved ones are an important part of the healing process, and under normal circumstances, Scripps welcomes our patients' visitors with open arms. However, due to the outbreak of COVID-19, we must follow government mandates to take extra steps for the safety of our vulnerable patients, staff, clinicians and community. We are restricting all visitors to our hospitals until further notice. Exceptions are made in certain situations, including those visiting a patient on comfort/end-of-life care or who are the coach/partner of a maternity patient.

Communicating with family and friends: During this challenging time, we are encouraging family and loved ones to communicate with you through phone calls or video conference. We recommend that in addition to your smartphone or tablet, you bring a charger, a list of contacts, and that you familiarize yourself with the video conferencing platform of your choice prior to your hospital stay.

With safety in mind, Scripps encourages you to get the health care you need. We are deeply committed to making sure you feel comfortable and safe. We are grateful that you trust us to care for you and we want you to know we are here for you. For more information about Scripps safety measures please visit scripps.org/covid19.