

# COVID-19 Patient Education Regarding Surgeries and Procedures

Cass Regional Medical Center is committed to the safety of our patients, physicians and staff. As part of this commitment, higher risk procedures have to have a COVID-19 test as part of their pre-admission testing prior to a procedure or surgery.

COVID-19 testing must be done prior to the scheduled procedure. Before testing, patients will be screened. If a patient has symptoms or has recently been in close proximity to a known COVID-19 patient, his or her procedure may be delayed. If a delay is not possible, then the patient will proceed with the COVID-19 test.

The test consists of a nasal swab, which is evaluated at a laboratory to determine if you have the COVID-19 virus in your body. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that may or may not cause symptoms, depending on the individual.

If your test is negative for COVID-19:

A nurse will review with you how to prevent COVID-19 exposure prior to your procedure.

- Wear a mask after the COVID-19 test is performed. One mask should be worn each day, and then laundered (if cloth) or discarded. A mask should be worn when interacting with others.
- Self-quarantine in your home after testing, making contact only with people who live with you.
- Maintain a distance of six feet between yourself and others during the time between your COVID-19 test and your procedure/surgery.
- If you develop a fever greater than 100 degrees, a cough, and/or shortness of breath, during the period between your COVID-19 test and your procedure, please call Cass Regional's Surgery Department at (816) 380-3474, extension 7700.

If your test is positive for COVID-19:

Cass Regional's anesthesia providers and the physician chair of the Surgery Department will review all details of your medical condition and determine if proceeding with surgery is in the best interest of you and our staff. Your provider and the surgery/GI staff will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to safeguard your care, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This will include masks, eye protection, gloves and gowns.

