

Surgeries and Procedures during COVID-19

For your health, and for the safety of staff, we want to ensure you minimize your chance of getting COVID-19 in the time leading up to your procedure or surgery. Please follow the instructions below to help you minimize your risk.

Self-isolate

Self-isolate for seven days if feasible to reduce the risk of viral infection in the immediate pre-operative period. If it's not feasible to be off work, then please ensure you abide by public health safety measures at all times, including physical distancing, masking in public, minimizing contacts and avoiding crowds. More information on self-isolation is available through [Public Health Ontario](#).

Hygiene

Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds. Disinfect commonly touched surfaces.

Pre-operative COVID-19 Testing

You will be contacted four to five days prior to your surgery/procedure by phone. The nurse will screen you for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 through a series of questions. Your responses may require you to have a COVID-19 test (swab) done three to five days prior to your surgery/procedure. COVID-19 testing for surgical patients is done at the hospital.

Day of Procedure or Surgery

Plan to have someone drop you off at main entrance and a staff member will assist you. Monitor for symptoms. Wear a mask. Do not take public transportation.

Visitors

In order to ensure the safety of our patients and staff, visitor restrictions are in place at Bluewater Health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you are undergoing testing for COVID-19, please proceed to the hospital alone to be swabbed. For your surgery, you may have one support person accompany you. If you will be staying in the hospital following your surgery, your support person will stay with you only until you are admitted.

We understand that this is a difficult change, but it is an important precaution put in place to ensure the safety of all those at Bluewater Health, including our sickest and most vulnerable patients.