

PERIOPERATIVE SERVICES

Children's Hospital Colorado Pre-Procedural COVID-19 SBAR and FAQ

Situation: Pre-procedural SARS-CoV-2 testing at Children's Hospital Colorado has been a required component of our pandemic response and has been challenging to execute for our peri-operative teams, microbiology laboratory, community partners and most importantly for our patients.

Background: As the pandemic recedes in terms of active cases, our asymptomatic pre-procedural SARS-CoV-2 positivity rate has dropped below 1%. With very high COVID vaccination rates of clinical staff and availability of PPE in all our clinical environments, pre-procedural SARS-CoV-2 testing currently adds little incremental safety benefit to our team members.

Assessment: As part of our pandemic recovery, and in close partnership with our surgery, anesthesia, and epidemiology teams, CHCO will change policy and significantly reduce the requirement for pre-procedural SARS-CoV-2 testing.

Recommendations: As of July 19, 2021, pre-procedural SARS-CoV-2 testing will be limited to the following situations:

1. Patients undergoing specific high-risk aerosol generating procedures (AGP) that include bronchoscopy/direct airway manipulation by otolaryngology, pediatric surgery, or pulmonology as well as oral maxillofacial/dental procedures under anesthesia
2. Any patient getting admitted to any inpatient unit after their surgery/procedure
3. Patients who are identified during the week prior to their procedures as having epidemiologic risk factors for COVID-19 (household exposure, symptoms, or travel out of state of residency except for travel to CHCO for clinical care)

FAQ

Q: Who is required to get a pre-procedural COVID-19 test?

A: Pre-procedural testing is only required for patients who meet the following criteria:

1. Patient is scheduled for a COVID-19 High Risk Procedure for Surgery and Procedural Areas: Dental procedure, oral maxillofacial surgery, bronchoscopy, or airway procedures performed by otolaryngology or pulmonary.
2. The patient responds in the affirmative to any of the below pre-procedural screening questions.
 - a. In the past 14 days, have you traveled outside of your state of residency except for travel to CHCO for clinical care?
 - b. In the past 21 days has the patient been diagnosed with COVID-19 or been tested for COVID-19 and has a positive test or is awaiting results?
 - c. In the past 14 days has the patient lived with anyone who was diagnosed with COVID-19 or been tested for COVID-19 and has a positive test or is awaiting results?



13123 E 16th Ave, Aurora, CO 80045
720-777-1234 | childrenscolorado.org

- d. Has the patient been ill with the following symptoms in the past 24 hours?
- i. Loss of taste/smell, shortness of breath, cough, fever (>38° C or 100.4°F), runny nose, sore throat, headache, fatigue, muscle aches, chills, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea?

3. Patient is scheduled for admission, observation, or extended recovery post procedure.

Q: What is the time window for a patient to receive a pre-procedural COVID-19 test if indicated?

A: The patient must have a SARS-CoV-2 PCR sample collected within three (3) calendar days of the procedure. If the patient chooses to schedule on the day before the surgery, then it must be completed before 11 a.m. to get results on time and avoid cancellation.

Q: Where can a patient have a SARS-CoV-2 PCR sample collected at CHCO?

A: Samples can be obtained via appointment only at our mobile testing locations on our Anschutz Medical Campus and our Briargate Outpatient and Specialty Care location.

Anschutz Medical Campus:

Testing Site: 1575 Wheeling Street, Aurora, CO 80045

Hours: Open 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Phone Number: 720-777-0001

Briargate Outpatient and Specialty Care

Testing Site: 4125 Briargate Pkwy., Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Hours: Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 9:30 am to 6 p.m.

Phone Number: 719-305-0005

Q: Can patients receive their pre-procedural COVID-19 test at a non-CHCO site?

A: Yes. Patients can schedule and receive their pre-procedural COVID-19 nasal swab PCR test at a UHealth facility. Patients/families can find instructions on how to schedule a test, potential cost (\$85), and testing locations at [UHealth's COVID-19 website](#). **Please be aware of this option as several UHealth facilities are not offering the nasal swab PCR test and may offer antibody testing only. Antibody testing is not an acceptable pre-procedural COVID-19 test.**

Q: Do I need to order a COVID-19 test on behalf of my patient if they choose a UHealth location?

A: No. Parents can call and schedule an appointment at a UHealth drive-in site that provides nasal swab testing. The patient does not need an lab order to do so.

• **Test results** will cross into Epic via Care Everywhere but WILL NOT generate any flags or BPAs in our system. EPIC users will need to navigate to a patient's chart, select the Care Everywhere button, select UHealth as the organization, select the "Lab" tab, and then find the COVID-19 RNA (SARS Cov-2) result.



Affiliated with
 University of Colorado
Anschutz Medical Campus

13123 E 16th Ave, Aurora, CO 80045
720-777-1234 | childrenscolorado.org

Q: When will patients receive the pre-procedural screening questionnaire?

A: Patient will receive the screen multiple times through different mediums prior to their procedure.

- Screening questions may be asked during scheduling depending on how soon the procedure is scheduled.
- Patient may receive a pre-procedural phone call from a team member with pre-procedural instructions where this survey will be administered.
- Patient will receive a 7-day out and a 3-day out text message including aspects of the survey.
- If the patient is MyChart Active, survey questions will be provided in the 2-day out MyChart message.
- Patient will be asked these screening questions upon entering any CHCO facility.

Q: Can I still submit a request to waive a pre-procedural COVID test?

A: Yes. If you have a patient that cannot tolerate a COVID-19 test because of their medical diagnosis, please reach out to [Marissa Kaesemeyer](#) and [Garrett Risley](#) to start the waiver process.

Q: Will my practice staff be impacted by this process, and will my workflow change?

A: No, your workflow should not change. Our CHCO EPIC CAS team built logic into the order sets to, by default, order SARS-CoV-2 tests for those procedures deemed High Risk Aerosol Generating Procedures. The practice provider will submit the lab order for a COVID test, and the parent/patient will contact the CHCO Access Appointment Desk to schedule their pre-procedural COVID-19 test.

Q: What if a patient is coming from a location normally serviced by our South Campus or North Campus?

A: We are directing all patients to receive their pre-procedural testing at either Anschutz Medical Campus or Colorado Springs Campus.

Q: What do we do if a patient has received their full series of COVID-19 vaccination?

A: At this time, we are continuing to require pre-procedural COVID-19 testing regardless of vaccination status.

Q: What about intubation and extubation, isn't that considered a high-risk aerosol generating procedure that would require COVID-19 testing prior to?

A: We have partnered closely with our Anesthesiology colleagues and with team member vaccination rates being so high paired with ample PPE, they no longer consider intubation/extubation a high-risk aerosol generating procedure.

Q: Approximately how many patients undergo a procedure deemed not to be a high-risk aerosol generating procedure?

A: From 3/1/2021 - 5/31/2021, 78.5% of all procedures fall into the non-high-risk aerosol generating procedure category (n=7,576).



13123 E 16th Ave, Aurora, CO 80045
720-777-1234 | childrenscolorado.org