



Stevenson Memorial Hospital
Surgery
Pre-procedure COVID-19 Screening

You have been booked for a procedure by: Dr. _____ on _____.

Stevenson Memorial Hospital (SMH) is requesting that all patients coming to hospital for procedures undergo **pre-procedure COVID-19 screening**. **Please inform your surgeon if you are experiencing any of the following symptoms.**

Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) include:

Fever of 37.8 or higher	Chills
Cough, new or worsening	Shortness of breath, new or worsening
Difficulty swallowing	Sore throat, hoarse voice
Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain	Runny, stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies)
Headache, new or unexplained	Pink eye
Lost sense of taste or smell	Muscle aches

Surgical patients being admitted to the hospital following their procedure OR those who use a CPAP machine at home are required to complete a COVID-19 swab test at the SMH COVID-19 Assessment Centre. The Centre is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Patients will be required to call in on the day they require a COVID-19 test to register for a same-day appointment. **Phones will be answered starting at 7 a.m. on operating days. Please call (249) 501-0384 to book your appointment and ensure you have your health card available.**

Alternatively, patients may choose to get their swab test done at an alternate Assessment Centre, and can be directed to [COVID-19 testing locations](https://www.ontario.ca/covid-19-testing-locations) (ontario.ca) to find a nearby location. Please note that the hospital only accepts swab results from provincial COVID-19 Assessment Centres. **Rapid test results from pharmacies or home testing kits are NOT acceptable.**

Please practice **good health habits** to decrease risk of exposure to illness. COVID-19 continues to spread in our community along with several other viruses including RSV and seasonal influenza. It is important that everyone continues to use multiple layers of protection to reduce the risk of becoming sick.

Listed below are the best ways to protect yourself from transmitting or spreading the COVID-19 virus:

- Wash your hands frequently.
- Stay home as much as possible.
- Avoid contact with others who are sick.
- Practice physical distancing.
- Wear a mask when out in public places.
- Cover your mouth with an elbow when coughing or sneezing.

Day of Surgery

- Continue to self-monitor for symptoms and call the hospital if you develop them.
- Plan to have someone drop you off at the front entrance.
- A support person will not be able to accompany the patient into the hospital unless the patient is under the age of 18.
- A support person with a working cell phone must be available to pick you up within 15-30 minutes of a call from our staff. This will help us maintain social distancing in waiting rooms and recovery rooms, helping to keep you, other patients and our staff safe.
- Please ensure you bring written contact information that will accompany you throughout your stay if you want a family member or friend to receive information.

Possibility of COVID-19 Exposure

The nature of the virus indicates that even asymptomatic people can transmit disease. This means despite all efforts to ensure staff and patient safety, there will always be a small possibility of being exposed to COVID-19 in any public space including our hospital. Patients need to consider this fact when determining if surgery is right for them at this time.

Evidence has shown that the highest procedure putting health care members at risk is putting patients to sleep for surgery. We ask that because of this, you be forthcoming with your symptoms. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.