UVMHN COVID Re-Entry Policy: Pre-Procedural Testing
Approved by UVMHN Re-Entry Steering Committee May 19, 2020

Pre-Procedural Testing Goals
- Maximize safety for patients and staff.
- Comply with National and State guidelines on pre-procedural testing.
- Ensure consistency across UVMHN, to the extent appropriate and permitted by state guidelines.
- Ensure appropriate use of scarce testing resources.

Testing Process
- Clinics will schedule pre-procedural COVID testing, ideally coordinated with other pre-procedural testing or lab requirements to maximize patient convenience and operational efficiency. Pre-procedural clinics are being launched to facilitate this process at some sites.
- Pre-procedural COVID tests will be completed 72 hours before procedure in New York and 96 hours before procedure in Vermont.
- UVMHN Pathology and Laboratory Medicine team will return results within 24-48 hours, and results will be communicated back to the ordering clinician. The ordering clinician or his/her staff will be responsible for communicating with patients about test results and impact on procedural appointment.
- No STAT testing if pre-procedural testing process is not followed.
- All patients will be asked to self-quarantine between time of COVID test and time of procedure.
- All patients will be screened for symptoms upon arrival to the procedure facility on the day of procedure.

Note: At this time, all procedures in New York State require pre-procedural COVID testing.

Procedures Requiring Testing
- Note: The following procedures require pre-procedural testing in Vermont and will be required in New York once the broader New York State policy is lifted.
- All Surgery, including Orthopedic Surgery
- Any Procedure Requiring Intubation or Airway Management
- Birthing (Labor and Delivery)
- Bronchoscopy
- Cardiology
  - Invasive Catheterization procedures including Structural Heart procedures
  - Invasive Electrophysiology
  - Transesophageal Echo
  - Exercise Stress Test
- Endoscopy
  - Upper Endoscopy (EGD, ERCP, etc.)
  - Lower endoscopy not required at this time
- Interventional Radiology
- Pulmonary Function Tests (PFTs)

Exceptions to this Policy
- A procedure-specific exceptions list will be maintained as an attachment to this policy.
- Exceptions will be decided in a collaborative approach between the clinical service and the Network Chair of Anesthesiology. The Network Chair of Anesthesiology may defer to subject matter designees or site-specific designees, but retains ultimate approving authority for any policy exceptions.

Note: See PPE Policy for appropriate PPE for care of patients under investigation and testing positive or negative.