

Pre-procedure COVID-19 Testing Policy 8.3.2020

Unnecessary testing delays procedures without benefit and may result in procedures cancellation. As with all things related to COVID-19, this document will be updated as the evidence evolves.

Screening

Patients will be screened according to ambulatory screening algorithms. Patients with a positive screen will be referred for testing or managed otherwise per health system guidelines.

PPE

All patients, visitors, clinicians and staff will wear face masks when in any healthcare facility. Respirators and eye protection will be worn according to the YNHHS Yale Medicine PPE policy. Following these precautions significantly decreases the risk of nosocomial transmission.

Testing

Not all patients receiving treatment or procedures at YNHHS or Yale Medicine facilities require routine SARS-CoV-2 testing prior to that treatment or procedure. Select patients, as outlined below, should be tested within 3 calendar days of procedures with indications for testing. Some patients presenting for procedures that do not require routine pre-procedure testing may require it because of indications based on screening. In all cases screening and the use of appropriate PPE are critical to reduce the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Pre-procedure Testing is Indicated

- Select aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) specifically defined in YNHHS PPE Policy Tables A and B
- Procedures with moderate or deep sedation
- Exercise stress test
- Modified Barium Swallow, Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES)

Routine Pre-procedure Testing *IS NOT* Indicated (select examples)

- Local or regional anesthesia (outside of Operating Room)
- Sleep study without CPAP/BiPAP titration
- Diagnostic imaging (including PET/CT/MRI/Xray/mammo/US) excluding anesthesia
- Transthoracic Echo
- OT/PT/SLP
- ENT and Dental procedures:
 - Dental cleaning, exams, extractions or x ray
 - Dental prosthodontic care, and fillings
 - Endodontics, periodontics, orthodontics
 - Lingual frenotomy
 - Oral biopsy
 - Nasal endoscopy
 - Nasopharyngoscopy
 - Flexible fiberoptic laryngoscopy
- Wound care