

## COVID-19 Testing Before Surgery (Adults)

These instructions are valid beginning 8/30/21.

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### Getting Ready for Surgery - COVID-19 Testing

To help keep you safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19, you need to have a COVID-19 (“PCR” type) test within the 7 calendar days before your surgery. **You must make sure that your COVID-19 test is a “PCR” type and that it is performed within 7 days before your surgery.** The best way to do that is to have your test done at UVA Health. If your COVID-19 test is not the right type, or is not in the 7-day window, you may need to be retested, or your surgery may be delayed.

Note: If you need to stay in the hospital after your surgery, you will need an additional test on the day of your surgery. The test will most likely be done while you are asleep for surgery.

### Urgent Precautions:

- If you develop any signs of illness, or are in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, call your surgical team right away.
- Because it is possible to become infected at any time, it is critical that you follow self-isolation instructions prior to your surgery.
- If you have had a positive COVID-19 test in the last 120 days, please alert your surgical team and provide testing documentation as soon as possible.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### When does the test need to be done?

It is best to have this test done at UVA within 2 or 3 days before your surgery. However, the PCR test will qualify as long as it is done within 7 calendar days before your surgery.

#### What if the test results are positive?

- Positive Results - You will receive a call with instructions, and your surgery will be delayed until after a period of self-isolation.
- Negative Results - Continue to isolate at home. This will limit your chance of getting COVID-19 before surgery.

#### Where can I have the test done?

If you already have a visit scheduled at a UVA clinic within 7 days of your surgery, the test can be done at that visit. Here are other ways to get a COVID-19 PCR test done:

#### UVA Testing: (Preferred)

### **UVA Asymptomatic COVID Testing Clinic (13 years and older)\***

\*Referral from surgical team required. Test provided at no additional cost.

- Location:  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Main Hospital, Rm 1702  
(Behind Information Desk in Main Lobby)  
1215 Lee St, Charlottesville
- **Arrival:** Park at Lee Street Garage (ask for parking validation during test)
- **Safety:** Mask required | Visitor by exception only (call ahead to request an exception)
- **Hours:** Mon-Fri / 8:00am – 5:00pm
- **Test Type:** Nasal swab by self-collection only. If you cannot tolerate nasal swabs, or perform the self-collect test, you should request to be referred to another resource.

**UVA Clinic Testing Options:** Your surgeon can refer you for testing at another UVA clinical care site closer to your home, or you can call a UVA Clinic to make an appointment. Many clinics offer nasal or throat swab options. Clinic sites may have testing charges.

**Mail-In Test Kits from Quest:** You may request an at-home testing kit if it is difficult to travel to UVA. **Do not perform the at-home test until you are within 7 days before your surgery.** Performing the test too early may cause retesting or delays.

### **Non-UVA Testing:**

If using a non-UVA testing center, you should:

- Make sure the test is a “PCR” type.
- Let them know that the test has to be done within 7 calendar days before your surgery.
- Ask how long it will take to get the results back. UVA will need the results before the day of your surgery.
- **If you receive positive test results,** notify your surgical team right away.

Non-UVA Testing Options:

- Ask your Primary Doctor if they can set up a “**COVID-19 PCR**” test.
- Ask an external clinic (i.e. CVS, Walgreens) if they offer a “**COVID-19 PCR**” test.
- Virginia Department of Health (<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-testing/covid-19-testing-sites/>)

Proof of Results from a non-UVA Test: (Required)

- You can bring results with you on the day of surgery, or submit them in advance:  
Fax to (434) 245-2065 | MyChart ([registration](#) and [log-in](#)) | Email [SASCOVIDResults@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu](mailto:SASCOVIDResults@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu).
- Images on phones are not accepted.