

COVID-19 information for patients

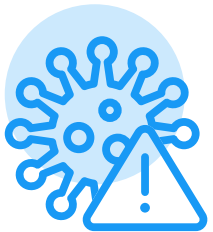


Working to keep patients safe



If you are attending one of our hospitals for a day case procedure, or inpatient admission, it is important you feel well informed about the risks and benefits involved.

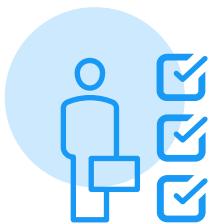
Risks associated with COVID-19 and surgery



In order to protect yourself from respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19, it is important that you:

- Follow guidance that the hospital gives you if you have respiratory symptoms before admission. There may be additional testing required at your Consultant's discretion.
- Perform regular hand hygiene.

Preparing for your admission



- There is evidence that some patients undergoing surgery while they have a respiratory infection like COVID-19 are at risk of developing serious complications after surgery.
- Your Consultant will consider your risk profile and advise you of the risks and benefits of the various options which are clinically suitable for you, as well as the steps that you will be advised to take.

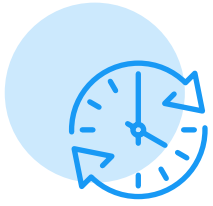
Postponing your procedure



We are likely to postpone your procedure if:

- You have symptoms of COVID-19.
- You are not well enough for your operation.
- You have tested positive for COVID-19 via LFT.

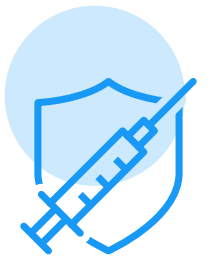
Timing of surgery after COVID-19



Circle Health Group adopts the recommendations regarding the timing of surgery from a number of UK bodies.

- It is advised that a period of at least 10 days is observed following a positive COVID-19 test and up to a period of 7 weeks based on individual patient risk factors.
- The decision about the timing of your surgery will be jointly made by you, your Consultant, and the team, and will consider all the relevant risks and benefits.

COVID-19 vaccination/ boosters and surgery

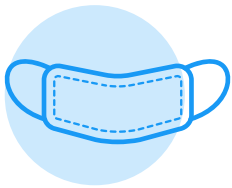


If you are booked to have surgery and you have been invited for a COVID-19 vaccination or booster, please allow at least 7 days after vaccination.

The 7 day delay is because you may experience some side effects and may not feel well enough to proceed with your surgery.

If you do not feel well enough, it is important that you inform the hospital so that your surgery may be postponed until you are fully recovered.

Protecting you during your hospital stay



- At all our hospitals, face masks are still available if you wish to wear one. The hospital may still ask you to wear one at certain times, and these will be available at the entrance. If you are asked to wear a mask and are exempt, please inform a member of the hospital staff so that they may advise you on the most appropriate measures to keep you safe.



- Hand sanitiser is available throughout the hospital. Please ensure that you use these stations regularly.



- If there are any concerns, we will discuss these with you in a private area and agree the best way forward for your safety.