



Lifespan

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Pre-Procedural Testing at Lifespan Facilities

November 6, 2020

There has been a significant increase in COVID cases in RI over the past few weeks. Therefore, we are revising our guidelines on who should get tested prior to having a procedure performed at a Lifespan facility.

Effective **Thursday, 11/16**, Lifespan will require all patients who will undergo invasive procedures to be tested for COVID. This includes Gastroenterology cases, all Surgical procedures, Cardiology invasive procedures (including TEE and metabolic stress tests), Obstetric procedures, and Vascular Interventional Radiology (VIR) invasive procedures.

Testing will be done at our Rhode Island Hospital and Newport Hospital sites. To accomplish this, **patients would need to be tested starting 11/12 for procedures on 11/16**. However, if a patient has a PCR test result in the acceptable time frame (96 hours) from an outside lab that would be accepted.

Each department is developing processes that will be communicated to their providers in separate communications. How to handle positive test results will remain a discussion between the patient and provider. If a patient does not get tested prior to their intended procedure it will be canceled. We do not have an ample supply of rapid PCR tests to perform a COVID test on the day of procedure for elective cases.