Effective today, Monday, April 6, 2020, due to increasing community transmission of COVID-19 and improved availability of sample collection kits and testing capacity, **ALL patients scheduled for aerosol-generating procedures including surgery or other procedures (see procedure list below) should be tested for COVID-19.** This will allow identification of asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic patients and may help to prevent transmission to other patients and healthcare personnel (HCP).

**Scheduled Invasive Aerosol-Generating Procedures such as:**
- Intubation and other methods of anesthesia/sedation that may generate aerosols
- Invasive procedures of upper airways (e.g., endonasal surgery)
- Bronchoscopy
- GI endoscopy and procedures of aerodigestive tract that involve insufflation of air
- Transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE)

**Triage and Screening:**
- **Prior to arrival,** all patients scheduled for the procedures described above should be screened for symptoms consistent with COVID-19: subjective or measured fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, myalgias, or diarrhea. If patient has symptoms, non-emergent procedures should be postponed or canceled.
- **Upon arrival,** all patients should don a surgical mask and be screened again for COVID-19 symptoms as above. If patient has symptoms:
  - Institute contact and droplet precautions
  - Test for COVID-19
  - Postpone or cancel non-emergent procedures

**Testing asymptomatic patients prior to scheduled aerosol-generating procedures:**
- Patients should undergo testing for COVID-19 on the morning of the procedure according to campus-specific processes. Unless emergent, the procedure should be delayed until test results are available.
- If testing needs to be conducted prior to the procedure day, testing should be performed within the 24 hours prior to the procedure.

**Patient Masking:**
- Patient should keep surgical mask on before and after the procedure. See *Interim Guidelines for Surgical Mask Use at NYP by Patients, Visitors, and Healthcare Personnel* (April 4, 2020)

**PPE Requirements for HCP during care of asymptomatic patients presenting for surgery and aerosol-generating procedures:**
- **All times:** universal surgical mask + Standard Precautions.
- **Collection of nasopharyngeal specimen from asymptomatic patient: surgical mask, eye protection, gloves**
- **Before procedure: If COVID-19 test is positive or indeterminate:** Implement Contact + Droplet Precautions (gown, gloves, face mask, eye protection)
- **During procedure: If COVID-19 test is positive or indeterminate, OR results are pending and procedure could not be postponed:** Implement Contact + Droplet Precautions (gown, gloves, face mask, eye protection) + N95 respirator for aerosol-generating procedures
- **If COVID-19 test is negative:** universal surgical face mask + Standard Precautions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Category</th>
<th>Patient Symptoms</th>
<th>Test Order</th>
<th>PPE Requirements While Obtaining Swab</th>
<th>PPE Requirements While Awaiting Result</th>
<th>PPE Requirements Based on COVID-19 Test Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low suspicion for COVID-19</td>
<td>No symptoms</td>
<td>“SARS-CoV-2 PCR”</td>
<td>Surgical Mask + Eye protection + Gloves</td>
<td>Universal Surgical Mask If an invasive procedure that may generate aerosols must occur prior to the availability of the SARS-CoV-2 test result, use Contact + Droplet + N95</td>
<td>Universal Surgical Mask Standard precautions** Contact + Droplet Precautions (Gown, gloves, surgical mask, and eye protection) (+ N95 for aerosol-generating procedures)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For any questions, please contact:

- NYP-AH: 212-932-5219
- NYP-CU and NYP-MSCH: 212-305-7025
- NYP-WC: 212-746-1754
- NYP-WD: 914-997-4377
- NYP-LMH: 212-312-5976
- NYP-LH: 914-787-3045
- NYP-BMH: 718-780-3569
- NYP-HVH: 914-734-3950
- NYP-Q: 718-670-1255