

COVID- 19 PANDEMIC POLICIES

MISSION: Contribute to the surgical assessment and care of Northern BC residents and visitors during the Covid-19 pandemic under the guidelines and policies set by the Province of BC and BC Centre of Disease Control (BCCDC).

1. Policies will be guided by the Province of BC and BCCDC and reviewed and amended accordingly. Relevant guidelines and directional materials on symptoms and handwashing will be posted.
2. All patients will undergo a Covid-19 screening questionnaire 24 – 72 hours prior to their appointments, and again on arrival. Positive screening questions will result in cancellation of the planned visit. A referral to the Northern Health Covid-19 hotline and a recommendation to isolate will be made. PGSC will follow up to ensure that Public Health recommendations are completed prior to rescheduling the visit.
3. All parties entering the facility will be requested to wash their hands per the posted guideline.
4. All parties entering the facility for clinic or surgical services will wear a mask.
5. Office staff will remain behind plexiglass barriers when communicating with staff or other personnel. Office staff working outside of plexiglass barriers and within 2 metres of others will don a clean cloth mask.
6. Clinical and Office Staff will promptly report by phone any mild symptoms that could represent Covid-19 infection and promptly self-isolate.
7. There will be a daily wellness check of office and clinical staff. Any staff reporting even mild symptoms will be isolated at home.
8. Environmental cleaning of the lobby and washroom will include 2-hourly wipe down of public counters in addition to daily cleaning.
9. Disinfected pens will be provided for public use and will be disinfected prior to repeat use.
10. The television remote controller will not be available to the public, however the office staff will maintain and use the remote to assist waiting visitors with channel choices.
11. Staff working in clinical areas will wear PPE and conduct themselves per the updated BCCDC Guideline Infection Prevention and Control Protocol for Surgical Procedures During Covid-19.
12. Staff lunch breaks will be taken in several marked rooms with a maximum of 2 personnel per room. Staff will bring their own lunch to work.

13. Staff or patients experiencing symptoms that may represent Covid-19 infection will be isolated at home. These parties will be directed to the Northern Health Screening number for further direction on testing. It will be reinforced that testing is a priority, and mandatory isolation is required while awaiting results of testing.
14. Return of staff to the general population after isolation will be in accordance with BCCDC policies on isolation and testing.



Managing Director