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## Center for Special Surgery

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### **Safety First**

As the world better understands and reacts to the impacts of COVID-19, the health, safety and well-being of our patients, doctors, nurses and employees remains our top priority. You should have confidence when you are scheduled for outpatient surgery at Newport Center for Special Surgery that we are doing everything we can to make your procedure go well. We are closely monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and local health agencies for the latest developments related to COVID-19 and following the guidance of government and public health officials. We are reinforcing these agencies' recommendations on the appropriate health and safety measures with our staff.

### **Supply Chain**

Our facility is working within the capacity of the supply chain to ensure that hospitals have priority for necessary equipment and supplies. The facility is also working to ensure that its own patients, employees and visitors have the necessary equipment and supplies to maintain a safe environment. Collaborating with hospitals and health systems to coordinate care based on each community's individual needs is an important part of mitigation strategies.

### **Outpatient Surgery Is Still Safe**

Until a vaccine or herd immunity is developed, any public contact carries the risk of COVID-19 infection. Dr. Richard Beers, chair of the American Society of Anesthesiologists Committee on Occupational Health, believes that healthy individuals who have scheduled outpatient procedures are generally considered safe, but anyone who has come back from a country deemed to be at high risk for COVID-19, or who has had exposure to a suspected case, should postpone surgery for at least 14 days. "As with any medical decision, the risks and benefits must be considered," Dr. Beers said, of possibly postponing an outpatient procedure amid the outbreak. "One must decide whether the risks of waiting (not intervening surgically) outweigh the risks of going ahead with the procedure, given the patient's medical status, the nature of the condition being treated, and the nature of the planned procedure and anesthesia."

### **Private One on One Care**

Since our founding in 1997, we at NCSS have specialized in plastic surgery. Like you, healthy, active people choose to have cosmetic procedures. Since we only do plastic surgery, there is no mixing of dirty colonoscopy procedures or infected orthopedic patients at our center--ever. Our rooms have individual antiviral HEPA filters and climate control. You will be our only surgical patient treated at a time. We will observe social distance techniques within the Center, and use face-masks to protect you. You will be seen in a private pre-op room, and after surgery stay in a private recovery room.

Your professional personal care team will stay with you before, during and after surgery- no passing your care from nurse to nurse to nurse. After surgery you will be discharged via a private side exit directly to your waiting car without having to go through the waiting area. Very few centers in the area offer such privacy, safety, and consistency.

## **Before Your Stay**

We will call you well ahead of your scheduled surgery to offer a health and safety review with your personal anesthesia Doctor by phone/telehealth, or in person if you prefer. The Doctor will address your concerns, and develop a personalized care plan to help your surgery go as well as possible.

-Let us know if you have been exposed to a person with documented COVID-19 infection, or if you are experiencing any symptoms such as fever greater than 100.4 degrees, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, eye infection, loss of taste/smell, or recent GI distress.

## **During Your Stay**

Our accredited surgery center's enhanced health and safety measures are designed to address a broad spectrum of viruses, including COVID-19, and cover everything from hand washing hygiene and cleaning product specifications to room and common area cleaning procedures.

To limit potential exposure within the communities where we live, work and play, our center has taken important steps:

-Keep your social distance. We do not advise those accompanying you wait in the waiting room during your procedure. We will call your designated ride you when you are ready for discharge, which can pick you up directly at the curb, steps from our private side exit.

-Patients will have their temperature checked before entry into the pre-op area.

-All people entering the Center must wash their hands or hand sanitize immediately. All must wash their hands on leaving as well.

-Only patients will be allowed beyond the waiting room unless necessary for medical reasons.

-Medical personnel will wear face masks while caring for you, and keep social distance when applicable. We suggest you wear a face mask as well, and will provide a clean mask for you.

## **After Your Stay**

-Patients are advised to avoid touching their face, wash hands frequently, monitor temperature, keep social distance, and use face masks when in contact with others in the peri-operative period.

-When arriving home after a procedure, patients are advised to change outer clothing.

Thank you. **Newport Center for Special Surgery**