



PHG Update: April 8, 2021

Dear Valued Providers

We want to be a resource to our Premier Health Group Independent providers. Throughout this pandemic, we will provide clinical and operational updates as they become available to support the provider community.

In addition, we have created a resources page on the [PHG website](#).

Please feel free to contact us directly at (937) 499-7441 if you have any questions

Yours sincerely,

Matt

Matthew S. Reeves, DO, MBA
System VP, Value Based Services, Premier Health
President, Premier Health Group

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Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association Updated Visitor Restrictions

Members of the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association (GDAHA) have adjusted visitor restrictions to increase visitation to two visitors per patient where growing vaccination rates and county-specific positivity rates warrant flexibility. Hospitals in GDAHA's 11- county service area have updated visitor restrictions to respond to the increasing vaccination rates across the region. This change allows hospitals to meet the needs of patients and families during the ongoing management of COVID-19.

Premier Health hospitals will adhere to these updated visitor restrictions. [Read the news release for additional information.](#)

Update on Screening COVID-19 Tests for Perioperative and Admitted Patients

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, Premier Health continues to adjust their processes to balance safety and efficiency. Over the past three months, the increasing supply of vaccine has helped to protect more and more health care workers. This, along with decreasing community prevalence and increasing immunization rates, have led to the following changes which will go into effect for any patients receiving care in **Premier Health hospitals on or after April 19, 2021 (testing does not need to be cancelled for any care that has already been scheduled for on or after this date).**

For this guideline, to be considered fully vaccinated, at least 14 days must have elapsed after the final COVID-19 vaccination dose (second dose for Pfizer/Moderna or single for Johnson and Johnson).



Outpatient Perioperative Testing

COVID test only required in:

- Any patients undergoing open lung or airway procedures unless a positive test was obtained in the 90 days prior.
- Any unvaccinated patient undergoing procedures under general anesthesia unless a positive test was obtained in the 90 days prior.
- Any unvaccinated patient undergoing upper endoscopy unless a positive test was obtained in the 90 days prior.

For patients with a positive test, unless contraindicated due to need, recommend delay surgery for 7 weeks from onset of symptoms or test result, whichever is earliest.

Medical/Surgical Admission or Maternity (Previously Universal Testing)

COVID test is only required for the following patients:

- Patients admitted with respiratory or non-respiratory symptoms suspected to be secondary to ACTIVE COVID-19 infection unless a positive test was obtained in the 90 days prior.
- Patients being admitted to the inpatient Behavioral Health Unit unless there is documented proof of infection within 90 days or patient is fully vaccinated.

A COVID test is NOT Required for acute respiratory symptoms suspected to be due to COPD, asthma, or focal pneumonia in a fully vaccinated patient.

Do not retest within 90 days of previous positive test unless the patient is immunosuppressed with a known new exposure or symptoms.

Please note that, in medical cases that are not clear, providers can determine whether ordering a COVID-19 test is appropriate.