



PHG Update: *January 18, 2022*

Dear Valued Providers,

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

In this issue, providers will find an update to surgery scheduling and a pandemic update.

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

Premier Health Group

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Surgery Scheduling and  
Pandemic Update

### Surgery Scheduling | Pandemic Update

The overall volume of COVID-19 cases is increasing in some of our hospitals at the same time we are seeing an increase in volume and acuity of non-COVID patients in all of our hospitals. In addition, Ohio hospitals in particular and health systems across the country are experiencing these same challenges and back-ups.

A variety of load balancing strategies and other measures have enabled us to continue near normal operations, and we are committed to ensuring that our patients receive the care they need.

**As we continue to identify how we can support staff while also caring for patients, it is now necessary to enact an additional load balancing approach to surgical scheduling at all Premier Health hospitals beginning January 10, 2022. The focus of this approach is on patients that require an overnight stay following their procedure. Due to the variation in capabilities and types of cases at the sites, each Premier Health site will evaluate, create, and enact processes independently and appropriate to their needs.**

**This load balancing approach involves the following principles:**

**CONTINUE** all procedures/surgeries where patients do not require an overnight stay.

**DELAY** any non-essential procedure/surgery that requires an overnight stay until after 1/31/22.

**KEEP** essential procedures/surgeries\* that will have impact to life, limb or function if delayed.

**MOVE CASES:** Work with your office staff and schedulers if there are cases to be re-scheduled for after 1/31/22.

**CASE REVIEWS:** If there are questions regarding a case or you feel that it is unsafe to defer a case, you may request a review with local peers (see below for point of contact at each hospital)

#### Miami Valley Hospital (all campuses)

- For non-essential cases that require an overnight stay and are not yet scheduled, we are asking you to consider if it can be safely scheduled after January 31, 2022.
- For non-essential cases that require an overnight stay and are currently on the schedule, we are asking you to move them until after January 31, 2022.
- For scenarios in which a patient could be discharged the same day rather than require a stay or can be cared for in an alternate care location, those cases will be evaluated individually.



### Atrium Medical Center

- For non-essential cases that require an overnight stay and are not yet scheduled, we are asking you to consider if it can be safely scheduled after January 31, 2022.
- Non-essential cases that require an overnight stay and are already scheduled may proceed. (If the need to move a currently scheduled non-essential case arises, the leadership will contact you.)
- If there are scenarios in which a patient could be discharged the same day rather than require a stay, or can be cared for in an alternate location, those cases will be evaluated individually.

### Upper Valley Medical Center

- For non-essential cases that require an overnight stay and are not yet scheduled, we are asking you to consider if it can be safely scheduled after January 31, 2022.
- Non-essential cases that require an overnight stay and are already scheduled may proceed. (If the need to move a currently scheduled non-essential case arises, the leadership will contact you.)
- If there are scenarios in which a patient could be discharged the same day rather than require a stay, or can be cared for in an alternate location, those cases will be evaluated individually.

### CASE REVIEW CONTACTS (email, secure chat, or phone call):

- **MVH Main Campus** - Dr. Rob Colón, 937 271-3573, [rjcolon@premierhealth.com](mailto:rjcolon@premierhealth.com). Please include Amy Stockman, 937-657-3222, [amstockman@premierhealth.com](mailto:amstockman@premierhealth.com) and Beth Heyse, 937-208-8552, [baheyse@premierhealth.com](mailto:baheyse@premierhealth.com)
- **MVH South Campus** - Dr. Thaddeus O'Neill, co-Management lead or Marquita Turner, 513-276-9982, [mlturner@premierhealth.com](mailto:mlturner@premierhealth.com)
- **MVH North Campus** - Stephanie Garner, Chris Coffield, 937-438-4679, [cmcoffield@premierhealth.com](mailto:cmcoffield@premierhealth.com) or Mary Garman, 937-673-7908, [megarman@premierhealth.com](mailto:megarman@premierhealth.com)
- **AMC** - Dr. Andre Harris, 937 902-7734, [atharris@premierhealth.com](mailto:atharris@premierhealth.com)
- **UVMC** - Dr. Scott Kanagy, 937 716-6232, [sbkanagy@premierhealth.com](mailto:sbkanagy@premierhealth.com)

The surgical leadership teams are actively working on plans to ensure that, when this load-balancing strategy is lifted, the teams at each campus will work to assist through any potential backlog of cases. Your continued partnership and flexibility are appreciated as we work through the coming weeks.

***\*Essential examples - cancer diagnosis or treatment, active infectious process, or other life-threatening procedural need***