

**Inpatient pre-procedure COVID-19 testing**  
**Updated Guidance on May 4, 2020**

For patients who are being admitted and are likely to need an aerosol generating procedure (AGP) or surgery requiring general anesthesia during that admission, please consider testing for COVID-19 on admission by ordering SARS-CoV-2 PCR. If the patient does not have symptoms concerning for COVID-19 (such as fever, cough, flu-like symptoms, diarrhea or loss of smell/taste), then select “Screening of asymptomatic patient” and “Approved pre-procedure screening.” The patient will not require isolation if they are asymptomatic with a pending COVID-19 test.

If a patient needs an aerosol generating procedure or surgery requiring general anesthesia and has previously tested negative for COVID-19 *during that same inpatient admission*, the patient does not need repeat testing prior to the surgery or AGP. If the patient was discharged between the time of testing and the time of AGP or surgery requiring general anesthesia, then they should be re-tested for COVID-19 with the SARS-CoV-2 PCR within 48 hours of the APG or surgery requiring general anesthesia.

Please contact [vumccoronavirus@vumc.org](mailto:vumccoronavirus@vumc.org) if you have questions about this process.