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*Our Vision: "Exceptional Care, Inspired by You"*

Re: Upcoming endoscopy procedure at QHC

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear QHC Endoscopy Patient,

In preparation for your upcoming endoscopy procedure we want to provide you with an update on our pre-procedure COVID-19 screening.

As the number of COVID-19 cases in Ontario changes, certain areas become 'high risk' for COVID-19 transmission. This is because of an increase in the number of cases in those areas.

The following types of travel within 14 days of your procedure will result in cancellation:

- Travel to an area that at that time is deemed 'high risk' by Ontario Public Health
- Travel outside of Ontario
- Travel outside of Canada

Procedures will also be cancelled if the patient has had contact with a household member that has traveled outside of Canada and is quarantining.

**It is therefore strongly recommended that you avoid travel outside the Hastings and Prince Edward County area in the 14 days prior to your appointment.** If you need to travel, we recommend making sure the area you are going to is not considered 'high risk' by Ontario Public Health.

- A map is available at <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/data-and-analysis/infectious-disease/covid-19-data-surveillance/covid-19-data-tool>,
- Areas that are coloured both orange and red are considered 'high risk'.

If you or your household member is an 'Essential Traveler' who needs to travel for work and is exempted from government mandated quarantine (for example: truck driver, military personnel, or airline crew), please contact:

- 613-969-7400 ext: 2298 – If your procedure is in Belleville
- 613-476-1008 ext: 4343 – If your procedure is in Picton

Thank you,  
Quinte Health Care Endoscopy Department

## Two Weeks Before Your Procedure

### Practice physical distancing

- Please limit contact with people outside your household and do not attending gatherings.
- **You can still go to work and attend appointments;** please follow Public Health Guidelines.

### **Do not travel outside Ontario or to a ‘high risk’ area within the province**

- Avoid travel outside the Hastings and Prince Edward County area
- If you do travel, make sure the area is not considered ‘high risk’ by Ontario Public Health.
- **Your procedure will be cancelled if you have travelled outside Ontario or to a ‘high risk’ area 14 days before to your procedure.**
- If you are an ‘Essential Traveler’ (example: military, truck driver, or airline crew) please contact:  
613-969-7400 ext: 2298 – If your procedure is in Belleville  
613-476-1008 ext: 4343 – If your procedure is in Picton

## Four Days Before Your Procedure

### **If you answer ‘Yes’ to any of the questions below, please call your endoscopist’s office:**

1. Have you traveled outside Ontario or to a high risk area in the 2 weeks before your procedure?
2. Have you been in contact with a person who has COVID-19 or a respiratory illness?
3. Have you ever been told that you have COVID-19?
4. Do you have any symptoms of COVID-19? These symptoms include:



Fever of  
37.8°C or  
higher



A new cough  
or worsening  
chronic cough



Shortness of  
breath or trouble  
breathing

**It is important your endoscopist has this information ahead of your procedure.** They will provide you with more instructions on what to do if you answer ‘Yes’ to any of these questions.

## Day of Procedure



### **Screening at the Doors**

- Everyone who enters the hospital is screened for COVID-19.
- **Please bring a mask from home to wear in hospital.** You must wear your mask unless you have medical condition which requires an exception.



### **Drop off/ Pick up Location**

- You will be dropped off and picked up at the same entrance:  
**Belleville General Hospital: Sills 2 main entrance**  
**Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital: Emergency entrance**
- If you have had sedation, your nurse will call your driver when you are ready for discharge. You will be transported back to the entrance you entered to meet your driver.