

**Title:** Protocol for COVID-19 Patient Management

**Responsible Department:** Dana Cancer Center; Radiation/Oncology

**Purpose:** In many cases, delay in treatment will reduce the chance of cure, local control, and cause negative oncologic outcomes. Evidence based studies regarding breaks in treatment course significantly affect patient outcome including risk recurrence.

**Procedure:**

1. Special Instructions:
  - a. Screen all appointments for COVID-19 using the COVID-19 Clinic Screening Tool
  - b. Notify all patients coming in for an appointment, that they will need to cover their nose and mouth with a mask when entering the building. If they do not have a mask, please provide a hospital grade mask to the patient
  - c. If patient screens yes and it is determined that they need treatment page Infection Prevention at 419-218-3744
  - d. Treat patient at the end of the day
  - e. Staff will wear face mask, face shield, gowns, and gloves
2. Treating Positive or Suspect Patient:
  - a. Positive patients or patients screening positive on the phone will be treated at the end of the day
  - b. Radiation/Oncology is the only area in Dana that will see possible patients under investigation if treatment is deemed essential
  - c. There will be one Physicist and one resident here each day for Dosimetry
  - d. Restrict patient care to two therapists, one RN, and one MD only
  - e. Do not allow patients to wait in waiting rooms, have them wait in the care and use cell phones to call when ready to treat
  - f. Meet the patient at the entrance to the healing garden, ensure they have a mask, and bring them immediately back to the Exam room
  - g. Take the patient immediately to Exam room 2 for treatment upon arrival
  - h. After the appointment is complete, Infection Prevention will determine if a COVID terminal clean is needed and place the appropriate order
3. Duration of Precautions:
  - a. Laboratory confirmed COVID-19 patients
    - i. Patient testing positive must be isolated for 14 days from onset of first symptom and continue to isolate until at least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever (100.0) without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms
  - b. Suspect patient testing negative
    - i. Return to regular schedule
4. Visitor Restrictions:
  - a. Visitors are only allowed if approved by Cancer Center leadership. If approved, only one visitor per patient for any scheduled office visit. Preferably the visitor

- stays in the car. If they must assist the patient, they must be given a mask to wear.
- b. If the visitor screens positive, instruct the visitor back to their car and to follow up with their PCP
  - c. Visitors are not to be in the waiting area

5. Resources:

- a. Interim Guidance for Healthcare Facilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/guidance-hcf.html>
- b. Preventing Infections in Cancer Patients: <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dcpc/resources/features/preventinfections/index.htm>
- c. [Infection Control: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 \(SARS-CoV-2\) CDC \[www.cdc.gov\]\(https://www.cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/guidelines/sars-cov-2/)

Revised by: Michelle Giovanoli, R. T(T); Dr. Changhu Chen, MD; Melissa Ahrens, MPH, Infection Prevention

Approved: 4/2020

Reviewed: 12/2020