

ELECTIVE SURGERY AND PROCEDURE GUIDANCE

SOLANO PUBLIC HEALTH | MAY 1, 2020

During the COVID-19 pandemic both State and Local governments have been working together to respond, and during this time, non-urgent health care has been deferred to support the local efforts and to further prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Current evidence shows progress in suppressing the virus, so the next important focus will be resuming our existing health care services for non-emergent and non-COVID-19 health care, much of which has been deferred during this time. Solano Public Health agrees with the guidelines issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on the resumption of elective procedures in our hospitals, which can be seen [here](#).

Providers and facilities are encouraged to gradually resume a full scope of services when possible and safe to do so. It is encouraged that as many services as possible and appropriate be delivered by telehealth/telephonic platforms, even after loosening of the Stay-at-Home restrictions in order to protect patients and health care workers.

Services should be available for both COVID-19 negative and COVID-19 positive patients assuming systems are in place to provide adequate testing, appropriate separation of the patients, and adequate PPE and training to protect health care workers.

The resumption of elective procedures should be informed by surveillance of epidemiologic trends and the hospital's own capacity. If any of the three resource conditions listed below are not available, then elective procedures should not be resumed:

1. At least 30% of the hospital's medical/surgical beds are available
2. At least 30% of the hospital's ICU beds are available
3. At least 30% of the hospital's total supply of ventilators are available

Additional guidelines can be seen here:

1. <https://www.aha.org/system/files/media/file/2020/04/roadmap-from-aha-others-for-safely-resuming-elective-surgery-as-covid-19-curve-flattens.pdf>
2. http://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/Elective_Surgery_04.24.20.pdf