

## Your Health and Safety are important to us at Portland Gastroenterology Center

Portland Gastroenterology Center continues to follow guidelines from the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as monitoring day to day developments in the State of Maine due to continued prevalence of coronavirus. The following steps, among others, continue to be taken to safeguard the health of our patients and staff, and society in general.

1. **Prescreening:** everyone entering our facility will be expected to attest to a series of screening questions. This is not meant to alarm anyone, and all patients, doctors, and staff members are asked the same questions.
2. **Social distancing**
  - Patients are asked to maintain a 6 ft distance during check-in and check-out
  - Wider spacing of seating in waiting areas
  - No more than 2 persons are allowed in the elevator at a time
  - Drivers and family members are asked to wait in their car
3. **Infection Control**
  - Continuing our meticulous scope cleaning protocols
  - Aggressive, comprehensive cleaning of procedure rooms after every procedure
  - Frequent cleaning of restrooms, waiting rooms, recovery bays and door handles
  - Masks for everyone entering the facility. We encourage you to bring your own mask (cloth masks are acceptable).
  - Hand sanitizer stations are located throughout the facility.

### Procedures

Learn more of "What to expect on the day of your procedure" in our Endoscopy Center under the Patient Resources tab.

### Office Visits

Office visits continue to be provided through video-conferencing telehealth. Telehealth service allows patients to meet with a provider via computer, phone with a camera, or a tablet without leaving your home. Telehealth services can be provided to patients who are physically located in the state of Maine. Under current guidelines, we are unable to provide telehealth services to patients physically located outside the state of Maine. In-person office visits are available on a limited basis.

## Infusions

We continue to provide all of our biologic IV infusions through our Infusion Center to ensure the ongoing health of our inflammatory bowel disease patients. National expert opinion is that continuing chronic maintenance immune suppression is a lower risk than a flare of your disease at this time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at (207) 773-7964.

We thank you for your continued patience.