

**COVID risk stratification for TQEH theatre - ELECTIVE**

Based on CALHN inpatient risk stratification / SA Health PPE matrix

Stratification	A	B	C
<b>Risk</b>	<b>All patients EXCEPT</b> Close contact or ERP (column B) Recent COVID-19 (column C)	<b>Close Contact<sup>1</sup></b> <b>Or</b> <b>ERP on ward</b>	<b>COVID-19 positive</b> <b>(Positive RAT or PCR)</b> <b>within last 28 days</b>
<b>Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)</b>	Negative on day of surgery <sup>2</sup>	Negative on day of surgery	PCR & RAT can remain positive for 28 days post COVID Refer to Testing & Clearance Flow Chart <sup>3</sup>
<b>Clinical priority</b>	Proceed as planned	Asymptomatic Delay for minimum of 14 days <sup>4</sup> <i>If cannot delay, follow ERP pathway in B Block</i>  Symptomatic Delay until resolution of symptoms OR 14 days if remain symptomatic and <b>Seek ID advice</b> Prior to rescheduling	Delay for a minimum of 14 days <sup>4</sup> after positive test, <i>provided patient is asymptomatic &amp; cleared<sup>3</sup></i>  If day 15-28 and uncleared <b>Seek ID advice</b> Prior to rescheduling
<b>Precautions</b>	All staff to wear N95 & eye protection as standard		
<b>Location</b>	A or B Block	B Block	
<b>Anaesthesia</b>	As appropriate No lockout	GA / Regional 15 min lockout post AGP	
<b>PACU</b>	Standard	Theatre Nurse in ERP	
<b>Cleaning</b>	Clinell wipes clean of all theatre equipment after case Standard Clinell clean at end of list	Clinell wipes clean of all theatre equipment after case Spotless TBP clean at end of list	

ERP - Enhanced respiratory precautions – impervious gown, gloves, safety goggles, single-use face shield, N95 mask

B Block = theatre priority 9, 8, 7, as per TQEH COVID 19 (ERP) pathway

AGP = Aerosol generating procedure; endotracheal tube intubation, extubation, bronchoscopy

**1: Close contact refers to the following**

- Household member or intimate partner of confirmed case during their infectious period\*
- Someone who has had close personal interaction with a COVID-19 case for a cumulative period of 4 hours or more during their infectious period\*:
  - where masks were not worn by the person and the COVID-19 case
  - in close physical proximity (within 1.5m)
  - in an indoor setting
- Someone who has been notified by SA Health that they are a close contact
- Close contacts are managed in ERP for 7 days. ERP can be lifted after day 7 if day 6 PCR is negative AND asymptomatic

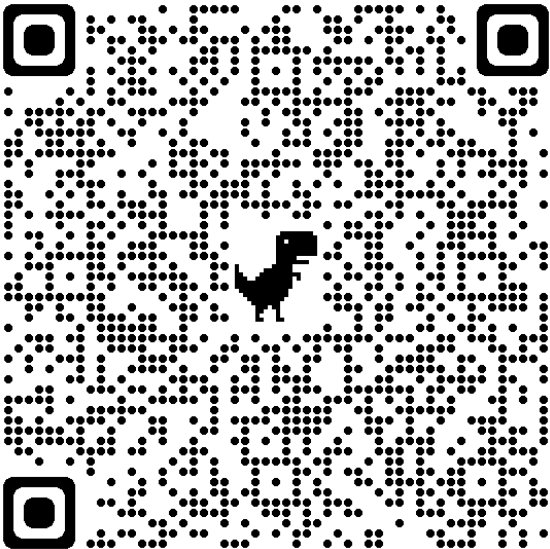
Day 0 = last day of contact with positive case OR date person with COVID had their test (if household and cannot separate from)

\* People are considered infectious 2 days before their symptoms started, or if no symptoms 2 days before their positive test

**2: Positive RAT & asymptomatic** – postpone surgery. Perform COVID-19 PCR and if negative patient can be cleared.**3: Clearance from COVID-19 & lifting of ERP** is guided by the flowchart below (see QR code). In general terms, where patients are immunocompetent & NOT in ICU, AND where they have been afebrile for >72 hours, they can be cleared at day 10 if symptoms have fully resolved, or after day 14 if symptoms have substantially improved. If immunocompromised or ICU patients PCR testing may be needed for clearance – seek ID advice**4: Current ANZCA, RACS & GESA guidelines** are that in patients who have been asymptomatic or had mild illness, endoscopic procedures should be delayed for 2 weeks, minor surgical procedures for 4 weeks & major surgical procedures for 7 weeks. Longer delays may be appropriate with severe COVID-19 or ongoing symptoms.

If clinical need warrants scheduling outside of the recommended guidance, a risk/benefit multi-disciplinary discussion MUST take place, with documentation of outcome in Sunrise.

CALHN COVID-19 TESTING & CLEARANCE FLOWCHARTS



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