

# Surveillance Testing for Patients



The safety of our patients, families, and staff is very important to us. To keep everyone safe, we have set up testing and other safety procedures. Please read the information below to learn about surveillance testing for patients.

## What is an AGP?

An **Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGP)** is a medical procedure that can release very tiny droplets of fluid from the body. These droplets (called aerosols) can be small enough to go through surgical masks and stay in the air for long periods of time. This increases the risk of infection for healthcare workers and anyone in the room with the patient. Examples of these procedures are:

- Intubation
- Extubation
- Tracheostomy change
- Bronchoscopy

## What is surveillance testing?

Surveillance testing is a weekly COVID-19 test for patients who need an AGP. It is necessary to make sure that patients who test positive have the procedure done in an isolated room. Testing is done every Tuesday as part of daily morning laboratory tests. The type of test is a nasal (nose) PCR test.

## Who will get surveillance testing?

Testing is required for patients who meet all 3 of the following conditions:

- No symptoms of COVID-19
- Staying in the hospital in a double room
- Scheduled for a certain type of AGP

## Glossary

**PCR test** – PCR stands for **P**olymerase **C**hain **R**eaction. It tests for the presence of the virus that causes COVID-19.

**AGP** – Stands for **A**erosol **G**enerating **P**rocedure. An AGP is any medical procedure that can cause the release of very tiny droplets of fluid (called aerosols) from the body.

**Intubation** – A procedure where a tube is inserted through a person's mouth or nose, then down into their airway/windpipe. The tube keeps the airway open so that air can get through. It can also connect to a machine that delivers air or oxygen.

**Extubation** – A procedure where a tube is removed from a person's airway/windpipe.

**Bronchoscopy** – a procedure that lets doctors look at the lungs and air passages. During bronchoscopy, a thin tube (bronchoscope) is passed through the nose or mouth, down the throat and into the lungs.

## Patient Family Education