
COVID-19 Safety

What is MNGI doing to help keep patients safe during the coronavirus outbreak (also known as COVID-19)?

Patient safety has always been our top priority. MNGI has followed guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health and made additional adjustments to patient screening and cleaning processes to ensure the safest experience possible.

COVID-19 Symptom Screening

MNGI will screen all patients for COVID-19 symptoms, as well as screen all staff and visitors upon arrival to any MNGI facility. MNGI will ask about recent and new symptoms as recommended by the CDC and will take appropriate follow up steps based on current guidance. The appointment may need to be cancelled on short notice if the patient tests positive for or experiences symptoms of COVID-19, or if the facility or service area requires additional capacity to address COVID-19. Only staff and providers who have certified that they are healthy and passed screening will be allowed to work.

Limiting Guests and Social Distancing

In order to keep you and our providers safe, MNGI asks that you follow social distancing and infection prevention guidelines (such as keeping your distance from others and wearing a mask in public) and limit interactions outside of your household for 72 hours prior to your appointment. In addition, MNGI is limiting guests in its facilities. Patients are asked to attend clinic, lab or infusion appointments alone, unless they are a pediatric patient with a parent or guardian. Accommodations can also be made for those needing physical assistance.

For endoscopy patients, drivers are asked to wait in their cars. After your procedure is finished, a member of the staff will contact your driver and they will be allowed into the facility to accompany you in the recovery area. Drivers will also be asked a series of COVID-19 screening questions. Patients in waiting areas are asked to maintain at least six feet of distance between themselves and other patients at all times. The clinical spaces have been reconfigured as allowed to increase the distance between patients. Due to the nature of clinical encounters, staff and providers will be required to interact with patients at a distance of less than six feet. During these encounters, staff, providers and patients will be wearing appropriate protective equipment.

Masks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All MNGI staff, providers and vendors who enter the clinical locations will be wearing masks. We also ask that you wear a mask (cloth or other) upon arrival to our facility. Patients and any visitors arriving without masks will be provided a mask and will be required to wear it for the duration of their visit. Staff and providers in procedure rooms will have additional levels of personal protective equipment that will include masks, eye protection, gloves and gowns.

Cleaning and Air Flow

Cleaning efforts have been increased at clinical sites for high touch areas such as door handles, keyboards, phones, counter tops, bathrooms, waiting room furniture and more. This includes routine cleaning, increased frequency and deep cleaning processes throughout the facilities. MNGI uses an FDA-approved registered disinfectant that kills coronaviruses. MNGI also has ventilation systems that help to exchange air at regular intervals.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at 612-871-1145 or through your secure patient portal account. *We look forward to caring for you.*

The entire team of caregivers
at MNGI Digestive Health

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