

## COVID-19 Healthcare Procedures & Hospitals

### Protecting Against COVID-19

***Because Ohioans have stayed home and practiced social distancing, we have slowed the spread of the virus and flattened the curve.***

On April 27, 2020 Governor DeWine announced the next steps for restarting Ohio's healthcare system to include the restarting of healthcare procedures and reopening of hospitals and outpatient facilities, dentist offices, and veterinary clinics. On March 17, Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, issued an order for the postponement of non-essential medical procedures. On May 1, a new order will take effect to include the following to ensure that Ohioans are getting their healthcare needs met:

- All healthcare procedures that do not require an overnight stay in a hospital may move forward.
  - a. This includes regular doctor visits, well-care checks, well-baby visits, outpatient surgeries, diagnostic testing and imaging, dental procedures, and veterinary visits.
  - b. Anything that requires hands-on care in a doctor, dentist, or veterinary office that does not require an overnight stay, may move forward.
  - c. Telehealth services should continue to be utilized if possible.
  - d. Prioritization should be given to those who have delayed needed procedures or those with new diagnoses.
  
- Procedures that were allowed in the March 17 order will continue.
  - a. A threat to the patient's life if the surgery or procedure is delayed.
  - b. A threat of permanent dysfunction of an extremity or organ system if delayed.
  - c. The risk of metastasis or progression if staging is delayed.
  - d. The presence of severe symptoms causing an inability to perform activities of daily living.
  - e. The risk of rapidly worsening symptoms if delayed.



All healthcare providers and facilities who resume these services must demonstrate that they are committed to patient and staff safety by adhering to infection control practices, by having a sufficient inventory of personal protection equipment, and by having the ability to test patients and/or staff according to testing recommendations defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or ODH.

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

**Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the COVID-19 CareLine at 1-800-720-9616.**

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 Ohio

Department  
of Health

Protect yourself and others from  
COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

## PREVENTION

For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).



STAY HOME



PRACTICE  
SOCIAL  
DISTANCING



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP  
AND EAT WELL-  
BALANCED  
MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN  
WITH WATER AND SOAP  
( 20 SECONDS  
OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH  
A CLEAN TOWEL  
OR AIR DRY  
YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH  
WITH A TISSUE OR  
SLEEVE WHEN  
COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING  
YOUR EYES, NOSE,  
OR MOUTH WITH  
UNWASHED HANDS  
OR AFTER  
TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT  
"HIGH-TOUCH"  
SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING  
YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD  
HYGIENE HABITS

For more information, visit: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)