

December 10, 2020

IMPORTANT REMINDER – COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENTS MUST CALL SOUTH CALGARY HEALTH BEFORE ENTERING

X-ray Services for COVID-19 Positive Patients

Mayfair Diagnostics has specific arrangements for patients who have a COVID-19 positive diagnosis and who referrers determine require X-ray services. These arrangements include:

- Mayfair Diagnostics South Calgary Health clinic is the **only** location that will provide X-ray services for COVID-19 positive patients.
- Clearly indicate the patient's COVID-19 positive status on the requisition.
- Please instruct your patient(s) to **call our clinic staff before entering the clinic**. Patients with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis must call 403-873-2336 upon arrival but prior to entering the clinic.
- All patients must wear a surgical mask within the clinic.

South Calgary Health

105, 31 Sunpark Plaza SE
Calgary, AB T2X 3W5

Hours: Monday-Sunday, 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Although not an absolute pre-requisite for X-ray referral, a low threshold for sub-specialty involvement is strongly recommended to assist with triage decisions that contemplate patient disposition or contravene self-isolation protocols. AHS resources are available to facilitate patient transfers and obtain specialist consultation via calling RAAPID and Specialist Link.

Pages 2 and 3 include further recommendations and information on how best to proceed when you have a COVID-19 positive patient.

Page 1 of 3

MAYFAIR[®]
DIAGNOSTICS

MEDICAL
IMAGING
REIMAGINED
radiology.ca

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE: This message is CONFIDENTIAL and legally privileged. It intended only for the person(s) or organization(s) to which it is addressed. Please note that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents by any other than the addressee may be a contravention under the Health Information Act, the Health Information Protection Act, and/or other legislations. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete any electronic or hard copy in your possession.

COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENT DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING ALGORITHM

For use with a patient confirmed positive for COVID-19 who needs diagnostic imaging for another underlying condition.

Step 1 – Consult Healthlink 811. If unable to get through to 811, contact: phc@ahs.ca (for non-urgent questions).

Step 2 – Once COVID-19 laboratory has confirmed a positive test for your patient with an unrelated condition:

- Primary care – Virtual consult/telephone consult is the first step. Advice is available through RAAPID on 403-944-4486 and Specialist Link on 403-910-2551.
- For non-urgent/non-emergent issues – If it can wait, it should wait.
- Urgent matter – Stable patient, but DI/lab will alter management, options include:
 - EMS Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program – Community paramedic visit.
 - Office visit – Use PPE.
 - If diagnostic imaging is required in the community:
 - Mayfair Diagnostics provides imaging (X-ray only) of COVID-19-positive patients at our South Calgary Health location.
 - Phone clinic in advance to alert them that the patient has a COVID-19 diagnosis at 403-873-2336.
 - Please instruct the patient to notify the clinic by phone when they have arrived to identify themselves prior to entering the clinic.
 - Clearly indicate COVID-19 positive status on the requisition.
 - If feasible, provide your patient with a surgical mask and direct them to wear it.
- Emergent matters – e.g., surgical indication or unstable patient:
- Referral to AHS facility.
- Patients sent to AHS hospital sites only if specialist care and/or admission is required.
- Contact RAAPID (refer to phone number on page 2) for assistance with patient triage.
 - EMS activation
 - Emergency department admittance
 - Direct admittance

Confirmed COVID19 cases – worsening disease status:

- Specialist consultation – internal medicine, respiratory medicine, and infectious disease.
- Disease progression may be rapid especially in elderly patients and those with pre-existing medical conditions.
- Respiratory distress or hypoxia is primary reason for escalation.

Role of diagnostic imaging for COVID-19:

- Chest X-ray and chest CT are not for diagnosis of COVID-19 and cannot be used to exclude COVID-19 infection.
- CT is used only in the hospital setting to look for complications.
- Chest X-rays are not routinely used for patient triage at this time.

Summary:

- Diagnostic imaging of COVID-19 positive patients can be performed in the community as long as certain pre-requisite conditions are met.
- If imaging can wait, it should wait.
 - Ask yourself: how will this diagnostic imaging study change patient management?
- Consider consultation with Respiratory Medicine or Infectious Disease Specialists for advice on how to manage and triage patients with worsening respiratory status.
 - Consider using AHS Regional On-Call Directory.
- Is patient unstable (hypoxia or respiratory distress) or requiring a hospital admission?
 - If YES → refer to AHS using the pathway above; do not delay or increase exposure by work-up in the community.
- Guidelines are subject to change with the rapidly evolving pandemic.

Regularly check resources for primary care specific information for health professionals:

- AHS Information for Primary Care Providers novel coronavirus (COVID-19)
 - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16956.aspx>
- Information for AHS Staff & Health Professionals novel coronavirus (COVID-19)
 - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16947.aspx>
- EMS Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program (Community Paramedicine)
 - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/ems/Page16487.aspx>
 - Toll free: 1-855-491-5868
 - Fax: 403-776-3835
 - Email: ATRSouth@ahs.ca
- RAAPID South (Referral, Access, Advice, Placement, Information & Destination)
 - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page13345.aspx>
 - Tel: 403-944-4486
 - Toll free: 1-800-661-1700
 - Email: raapid@ahs.ca
- Specialist Link (Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding statutory holidays. Call-back within one hour)
 - specialistlink.ca
 - Tel: 403-910-2551
 - Toll free: 1-844-962-5456

If you have any questions, please contact the Business Development team at BD@radiology.ca.