

To Bridger Orthopedic Patients:

We hope you are all staying healthy and safe as we navigate our way through these unprecedented times. The COVID-19 pandemic has presented a number of serious challenges to us all.

We have taken steps to ensure the safety of our community, patients and staff. Additionally, it is critical we do our part to keep Bozeman Health and all of our hospitals freed up for the most critical of cases including COVID-19. To support this effort, we are focusing on ***essential musculoskeletal care only***. Our provider team is closely monitoring and interacting with the most critical of needs.

If you have a question about an upcoming appointment or access to our walk-in clinic, please contact us at (406) 587-0122. We will also post updates here on our website and on social media.

Our Current Appointment Guidelines:

If you are currently experiencing any upper respiratory symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath), we ask that you reschedule your appointment 72 hours after you have been symptom-free.

If you have been exposed to someone that has tested positive for COVID-19, we ask that you wait 14 days prior to scheduling an appointment.

If you have traveled internationally or to a known COVID-19 “hot spot” in the US (e.g. New York, Washington, California...) we ask that you wait 14 days prior to scheduling an appointment.

If you are experiencing fever and/or respiratory illness, please practice social distancing and call your Primary Care Provider or visit one of Bozeman Health’s walk-in facilities for care.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Keeping Our Facilities Safe for our Patient and Staff

We have implemented the following steps to help keep our patients and staff safe, while still providing critical care during this crisis.

- 1) All staff that can work from home are now doing so to reduce numbers of people in our offices;
- 2) Non-critical appointments are being rescheduled for a later date to reduce numbers of people;
- 3) All people entering our facilities are being screened, with temperatures taken to check for fever;
- 4) If someone has a fever, they are returning to their vehicle and a Provider is calling them for triage;
- 5) Staff is cleaning our offices with surgical grade cleaner multiple times daily;

- 6) We've reduced and distanced the furniture in our waiting rooms to help with social distancing;
- 7) We've eliminated community contents from our waiting rooms like magazines and water coolers;
- 8) We've temporarily shut down our digital check in Kiosks; and
- 9) We're in the processing of implementing Telemedicine technology for patients that qualify.

What You Can Do?

You can help prevent the spread of coronavirus by following some basic practices:

- 1) Wash your hands often with soap and water (20-30 seconds);
- 2) Use hand sanitizer as a substitute;
- 3) Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth;
- 4) Cough or sneeze into your arm/elbow and/or please cover your nose/mouth with a tissue (dispose in the covered trash bin);
- 5) Frequently clean and disinfect surfaces and objects;
- 6) Reschedule your appointment if it can wait; and
- 7) Practice social distancing.

It's clear that the coronavirus has deeply impacted our community. On behalf of every member of The Bridger Orthopedic team, please be assured we are focused on your health and well-being every day. Together, we can get through these challenging times.