

St. Luke's Cornwall
Medical Group

Dear Patients,

As our understanding of the COVID-19 virus continues to evolve, our practice reviews updates from both the Centers of Disease Control (CDC) and the Department of Health. As we review these updates, we will respond with measures designed to allow us to continue to provide medical care to our patients in a safe environment.

Currently, all patients will be screened for upper respiratory symptoms (cough, sore throat, fever) the day prior to their scheduled visit. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and difficulty breathing. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms one of our physicians will guide you on the next appropriate steps for screening, testing and treatment. On the day of your scheduled visit, if you are experiencing any of the above symptoms, **please call ahead** so we can prepare to treat you properly, while maintaining the necessary protection of your fellow patients of our practice, our staff, as well all those whom you may come in contact with during your visit.

The screening questions that will be asked prior to your visit include the following:

- Have you traveled recently?
- Do you currently or have you recently had a cough, fever or shortness of breath?
- Have you been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for or is under investigation for COVID-19?
- Have you had a positive COVID test within the last 4 weeks? If so, have you had a fever at any time over the last 3 days?

Any patient answering yes to any of these questions will be further screened by our clinical staff and will be instructed on the next appropriate step. Communication and proper screening are an essential step in allowing the Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Medical Group to continue to tend to medical conditions in need of treatment, not related to COVID-19. We are committed to the safety of all patients, visitors and staff and appreciate your cooperation and compliance in all of the above stated precautionary measures.

TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF:

- **Wear a mask when in public.**
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.** Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.
- **Stay home:** People who are mildly ill with COVID-19 are able to isolate at home during their illness. You should restrict activities outside your home, **except for getting medical care.**
- **Avoid public areas:** avoid being in public areas except when necessary.
- **Social distancing:** maintain at least 6 feet between yourself and others even when wearing a mask.
- **Avoid public transportation:** Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/. Check www.MontefioreSLC.Org for evolving COVID-19 updates and information.

If you have other questions, please call the Orange County Department of Health at 845-291-2330. Our team at The Medical Group at Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall wants to help you and your family stay healthy during this trying time. Help us in keeping our office a safe haven for receiving healthcare in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,
Uticia Belfield, MD
Medical Director, St. Luke's Cornwall Medical Group