

COVID-19 Bulletin

 Southcoast Health

Exclusively for the employees
of Southcoast Health

September 14, 2021

Greetings, Southcoast Colleagues.

In this Bulletin, you will find the following:

- **IMPORTANT: Pre-procedural testing**
- **REMINDER: Patient vaccination status**
- **UPDATE: Food and beverage options**
- **VIDEO: Centralized Clinical Support**
- **STATUS REPORT: COVID-19 cases**

And be sure to visit Southcoast's [COVID-19 Employee Hub](#).

Thank you.

IMPORTANT: Pre-procedural testing

Since we have gone live with pre-procedural testing for all patients regardless of vaccination status, we have seen many patients scheduled for testing ≤ 24 hours prior to their procedure. Staff in the testing trailers have recognized this and have sent the specimens to run in-house.

As a result, we have seen a dramatic increase in Sofia testing and are now at risk of having no supply. Sofia testing supports our asymptomatic ED patients and patient placement. It is critical we conserve our Sofia supply for this purpose.

All pre-op/pre-procedural testing goes to Broad and is a PCR test. Turnaround time is 24 hours. It is essential that patients are scheduled for COVID testing 48-72 hours prior to their procedure.

Below is a guide to assist with scheduling timeline.

If procedure/birth/surgery is scheduled for:	Schedule COVID test on:
Monday	Friday or Saturday
Tuesday	Saturday (or Sunday if Sunday hours added)
Wednesday	Monday (or Sunday if Sunday hours added)
Thursday	Monday or Tuesday
Friday	Tuesday or Wednesday
Saturday	Wednesday or Thursday
Sunday	Thursday or Friday

We are adding courier runs to deliver Broad tests more frequently and are expanding testing availability on Friday in Wareham. We are also looking at potential Sunday testing hours.

If the COVID test result is not received prior to the procedure, the patient should be considered a PUI and the appropriate PPE worn and infection prevention processes followed.

Due to supply limitations, we will not be able to provide Sofia testing for these patients.

REMINDER: Patient vaccination status

Just a reminder to assess and complete the vaccination status on ALL patients.

Please also be sure to document consistently that education was provided to non-vaccinated patients.

UPDATE: Food and beverage options

Southcoast Business Center

On August 16, 2021, the SCBC Coastal Canteen opened to provide 24/7 access for grab-and-go food and beverage options. The Coastal Canteen offers fresh-brewed Jim's Organic Coffee and many other beverages, as well as a variety of sandwiches, salads and snacks.

The Canteen is located on the second floor of the SCBC and is accessible by employee badge swipe. The Coastal Canteen is designed to be fully self-service. You take whichever item you want to the payment station – scan your items then pay either by debit/credit card or using an account that you have set up with pre-deposited funds.

Saint Luke's Hospital

At St. Luke's, the lobby coffee kiosk will soon be home to "On the Run Cinnabon." The kiosk will feature assorted baked goods, as well as espresso drinks and specialty coffees featuring Jim's Organic, a local coffee vendor located in Wareham.

Until the lobby kiosk opens, staff, visitors and patients can access food and beverages in the cafeteria or from vending machines that also have food, beverages and coffee. Vending machines are located in the ED waiting area, outside the Wound Care Center, and at the cafeteria entrance.

Saint Luke's Hospital and Fairhaven Oncology

The next phase of food and beverage improvements will include a MicroMarket, similar to the Coastal Canteen, where staff will have 24/7 access to fresh food and fresh brewed coffee.



VIDEO: Saluting the Centralized Clinical Support Team



Our next in a series of videos highlights the many contributions and sacrifices made by Centralized Clinical Support Team so far during the pandemic. Click [here](#) or the image above to view.

STATUS REPORT: COVID-19 cases

As of 5:30pm today, we have 45 patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 hospitalized across our system – with 12 positive cases in ICU. In addition, we currently have 26 PUI currently hospitalized across our system – with 2 PUI in ICU.

COVID-19 daily dashboards, generated by the Southcoast Analytics Team, are available [here](#).

Thank you, and be well.