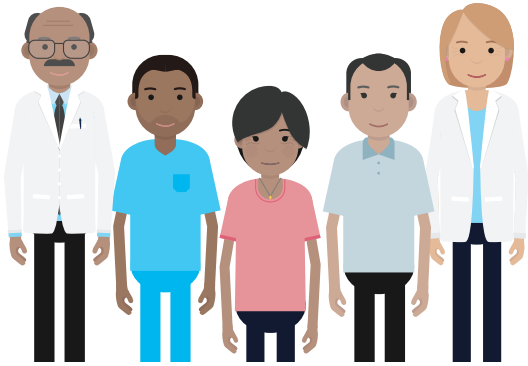


When you test positive for COVID-19

Let's take on this virus together.



Testing positive for COVID-19 can be scary and emotional. We're here to listen and help.

We want you to know that **the vast majority of dialysis patients can, and do, fully recover from the virus.** We are treating patients successfully today. We are here to keep you as healthy and safe as possible.

Do I have to go to the hospital?

- This is a normal fear and question to ask. No, you do not have to go to the hospital **unless your symptoms get worse.** We will continue paying very close attention to your fever, cough, and other symptoms to help keep you safe.
- Talk to your doctor about whether you should consider going to the hospital.

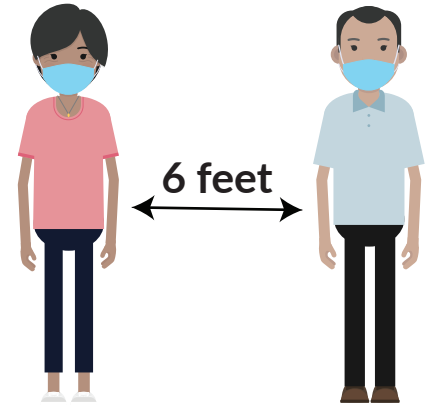
Making changes to keep you and others as safe as possible.

- Starting with your next treatment, your dialysis time and/or center will change based on your diagnosis.
- This change will help keep other patients who do not have the virus as safe as possible.
- Your risk will not increase from treating with other COVID positive patients.
- We will communicate your new treatment time and location. We will also work with you to try to find transportation to and from the dialysis center.



How can I keep from infecting my family and friends?

- Your family and friends who have been in contact with you should watch their symptoms closely. If they show any symptoms of the virus, they should talk to their doctors about getting tested. Given their exposure, they should be extra careful to stay at home.
- Try to stay 6 feet away from all family and friends. Stay at home as much as possible, distance yourself from others at home, and sleep away from your loved ones.
- Do not cook meals that others will eat.
- Consider wearing a mask at home and when around others. Encourage family members to wear a mask too.
- Wash your hands frequently, regularly disinfect surfaces, and touch as little as possible around your home. Encourage your family members to wash their hands very frequently too.



What can I do to stay as healthy as possible?

- Keep coming to your life-sustaining dialysis treatments on your new schedule. They are needed to help keep your immune system strong and blood clean.
- Stay in touch with your doctor's office. Call them regularly to give them an update on your symptoms. Let them know immediately if things get worse.
- Get plenty of rest and eat healthy, kidney-friendly foods to stay strong.

When can I return to my home clinic and schedule?

- Once your symptoms have cleared up and enough time has passed, you can return to treating on your normal schedule. Your care team and doctor will work with you to arrange this return to your normal schedule as your symptoms go away.

Your safety is our top priority. We'll do everything possible to help keep you safe.

When you return to your normal schedule

We're so excited to have you back! Returning to your home clinic/schedule may **trigger a mix of emotions**— relief, uncertainty, anxiety, excitement, and more—**that's OK!** We've tried to answer some questions you may have and provide tips on how to prepare.



Is it safe for me to return to my normal schedule?

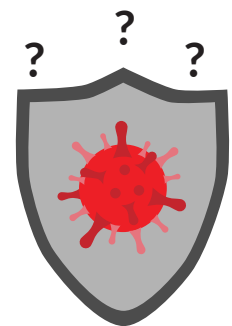
If your care team has approved you to return, the simple answer is YES. We have adopted policies that are even more cautious than the CDC's guidelines to determine when patients are safe to return to their normal schedule.

Once you meet the criteria to return to your schedule, you are just as safe as everyone else in your normal shift. Of course, you and everyone else in the center should continue to take appropriate precautions, such as screening at entrance and wearing a mask.

Am I immune to COVID-19?

The simple answer is—**we don't know**. It is too early in the study of the virus to know for certain if we develop immunity after having COVID-19.

Until we know more, we have to act as if it's possible to get the virus again. Please continue to take precautions, such as staying home as much as possible, except for dialysis.



Be kind to yourself. Feeling some jitters is ok. You'll get through this.

How can I best prepare for my return?

- Other patients may ask you questions. Consider how you want to respond.
- Remember, you do not have to share anything. You have the right to protect your health information. If you do not want to share, here is an idea of what you can say:

“I don’t feel comfortable discussing. I’m sure the nurse or FA can help answer questions you have about the process.”

- If you want to share, feel free speak about your personal experiences. You can reassure others that you are safe to return. Here are some ideas of what you can say:

“I can share that I do not have COVID-19 at this time.”

“I can assure you I am not higher risk than anyone else in the clinic”

“I’ve taken two COVID tests recently and both came back negative.”

“I no longer have any symptoms of COVID and have been cleared as safe to return”

- Remember, you are not alone. Your care team is here to help. Let your care team know if you’d like to discuss your feelings or need additional support.



How have you been? It's good to see you back.

At your home clinic, you should continue to wear a mask and follow all safety protocols as a precaution.