



# The Guildford Hip and Knee Clinic

## INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS UNDERGOING ELECTIVE SURGERY DURING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

### Date sent/given to patient:

The consultant looking after you has recommended a surgical procedure for your condition. You and your consultant will have discussed the options and the reasons for the treatment recommended.

**In addition to the normal risks and benefits of any treatment it is important that you are made aware of specific risks during the Coronavirus pandemic and that you also take certain precautions.**

Coming to hospital will mean that you have contact with staff who could unknowingly be carrying Coronavirus. Equally, you could be infected and not yet show symptoms. It is important that you understand that there is a possible increased risk to you. This needs to be weighed against the consequences of you not having the treatment you need.

Although we are still gathering evidence, there are reports stating that if you have an operation with Coronavirus in your system (even without symptoms) there is a significant risk that you could become ill enough with Covid-19 to need a ventilator on an intensive care unit. There is even a risk of death if this happens.

The biggest study so far (to which the UK contributed a large number of cases) showed that **one in five (20%)** patients who contracted coronavirus after planned (not emergency) surgery, at the height of the pandemic, died.

### PROTOCOL

In order to minimise the risks, as much as possible, we will ask you to follow a protocol of self-isolation and screening. It is important that you strictly follow this protocol. If you have been unable to comply there is a risk that your procedure will be cancelled.

The protocol may change, but currently you are required to Self-Isolate for 2 weeks **BOTH** before **AND** after surgery.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Whilst we believe that this protocol gives you the best chance of being as free of Covid-19 as possible for your procedure, there is no way of being certain that you are not at risk of developing the infection.

We are learning about Coronavirus all the time. There may be some risks that we are not aware of yet that may also affect your outcome from surgery.

In light of the information above, you might decide to delay treatment. Your Consultant can discuss alternative care options until the crisis has passed.

If you decide to go ahead, we require you to sign this form indicating that you have read it, understood the information and have no further questions.

For any further questions in relation to your admission and hospital stay please contact us via email:

[info@guildfordhipandknee.com](mailto:info@guildfordhipandknee.com)

We will then arrange for someone to contact you to discuss any issues that you may have.

*I confirm I have read the information above, I understood it and I have no further questions*

Name of patient	Signature	Date
Name of person taking consent	Signature	Date of consent

**PLACE SIGNED FORM IN PATIENTS CLINICAL RECORD**

June 2020