

Alaska Native Medical Center

Intrastate Travel for Healthcare During the COVID-19 Pandemic Procedure #501-07

Reference: Patient Housing Policy

1. Purpose:

- 1.1. This procedure is intended to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in Alaska while continuing to provide essential non-emergent multispecialty services for the entire Alaska tribal health care system. The procedure may extend beyond current Alaska state travel mandates; but it does not supersede any Alaska state and tribal travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.2. This procedure does not apply to emergent health related travel to ANMC; however, the procedure should be followed prior to departure from Anchorage after medical services at ANMC are completed.

2. Scope:

All organizational components of the accredited campus.

3. Procedure:

3.1. Prior to travel from home

3.1.1. Limit use of escorts to only when necessary

3.1.1.1. Clarify return travel guidelines (such as quarantine periods for villages and sub-regional mandates) from the patient's home region/tribal health organization to determine what will be needed for the patient and escort to return to their home region/village from Anchorage.

3.1.2. Receiving ANMC multispecialty clinic staff will confirm negative answers to COVID-19 screening questions for patient and escort < 24 hours prior to departure. (See Section 3.5 for a list of screening questions.)

3.1.3. Confirm patient and escort understand and agree to abide by State and local health mandates (for example wearing a face covering), required ANMC screenings, campus restrictions and any necessary travel extensions described in the sections below.

3.2. Upon arrival to Anchorage

3.2.1. Pre-operative SARS-CoV-2 PCR test (COVID-19 ASYMPTOMATIC SCREEN) for patient < 48 hours prior to scheduled procedure (See ANMC Infection Control Guideline for High Risk and Aerosolizing Procedures in the Operating Room)

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- 3.2.2. SARS-CoV-2 testing is not required prior to clinic or radiology appointments
- 3.2.3. Patient and medically approved escorts will adhere to Municipality of Anchorage mandates while in Anchorage, including current Hunker Down/Stay put orders.
- 3.2.4. Stay may be extended in Anchorage, when possible, if future medical appointments or procedures are planned in order to minimize patient and escort travel
- 3.3. Prior to departure from Anchorage
 - 3.3.1. ANMC multispecialty staff will confirm negative answers to COVID-19 screening questions for patient and escort < 24 hours prior to departure and will perform SARS-CoV-2 PCR test (COVID-19 ASYMPTOMATIC SCREEN) for patient and escort < 24 hours prior to departure. Patients departing Anchorage less than 72 hours from the time they received the pre-operative SARS-CoV-2 testing, will not need to be retested prior to departure.
 - 3.3.2. Return travel will be confirmed after negative screening questions and testing results are obtained.
- 3.4. Upon return to home
 - 3.4.1. Follow any local requirements after return travel
- 3.5. COVID-19 screening questions
 - 3.5.1. “Have you returned from out of state in the last 14 days or been in close contact (less than 6 feet for longer than 10 minutes) with someone who has returned from out of state in the last 14 days?”
 - 3.5.2. “Have you been in contact with someone who has COVID-19, has been ill with a cold or upper respiratory illness, or has been tested for COVID-19?”
 - 3.5.3. “Do you have any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, new shortness of breath, symptoms of the common cold, new diarrhea, or abnormal sense of smell/taste?”

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Responsibility:	ANMC CEO
Written:	4/17/2020
Approval:	ANMC Joint Operating Board
Date approved:	4/23/2020 (COVID Interim Procedure)
Date last reviewed:	4/17/2020
Date last revised:	New



Intrastate Patient Travel during COVID-19 Attestation Statement

To safely provide healthcare during the COVID-19 period, ANMC must ask patients and escorts to acknowledge and agree to follow State, Regional, and Local health mandates and ANMC processes.

By signing below, you are acknowledging and agreeing to:

Follow State, Regional, and Local Health Mandates regarding COVID-19 precautions. These may include “hunker down” orders, directives to wear face masks, or isolation requirements.

To answer all COVID-19 screening questions honestly. These questions will include:

- “Have you returned from out of state in the last 14 days or been in close contact (less than 6 feet for longer than 10 minutes) with someone who has returned from out of state in the last 14 days?”
- “Have you been in contact with someone who has COVID-19, has been ill with a cold or upper respiratory illness, or has been tested for COVID-19?”
- “Do you have any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, new shortness of breath, symptoms of the common cold, new diarrhea, or abnormal sense of smell/taste?”

To undergo all required COVID-19 Testing. Testing includes:

- Pre-operative testing of a patient within 48 of a scheduled procedure. This testing is required before procedures or treatment. However, testing is not usually required prior to a clinic visit or a radiology appointment, unless your provider believes that it is necessary.
- Testing of both the patient and escort within 24 hours of the scheduled departure to return home, unless the pre-operative testing was less than 72 hours of this departure. Negative test results are required to return home, in order to prevent the spread to your home community.

To follow Housing Requirements.

- At this time, guests and visitors to patient housing are not permitted.
- Prenatal patients may request one adult support person as an additional guest to be evaluated by patient housing management; however, children and guests for all other patients will not be permitted in patient housing facilities.
- Patient and medically approved escorts will adhere to Municipality of Anchorage mandates while in Anchorage, including current Hunker Down/Stay put orders.

To follow Travel Requirements.

- Negative test results are required for return travel, in order to prevent spread between communities.
- Stays may be extended in Anchorage, when possible, if future medical appointments or procedures are planned in order to minimize patient and escort travel.
- Post-travel requirements may be required by your home region or local government, such as required quarantine or self-isolation.

Printed Name

Signature

Date

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