

March 22, 2020

Changes to Traverse Heart and Vascular Services

Colleagues,

In an effort to protect patients and staff amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the team at Traverse Heart & Vascular is actively reviewing all scheduled visits and diagnostic testing.

Based upon clinical criteria established by our team of cardiologists, patients scheduled for a return office visit are being reviewed by cardiology APPs. Given the current concern of COVID-19 exposure, we will identify patients best suited for a virtual or telephonic visit, in place of an in-person encounter.

Scheduled cardiology consultations will be reviewed by a board certified cardiologist in order to determine if it is safer to see the patient as scheduled or to postpone the consultation 4-6 weeks.

Similarly, a process is underway to review patients scheduled for cardiac diagnostic tests. Patients that can be safely rescheduled for 1-2 months from their appointment date will be notified and a new date established. **If a non-THV provider ordered the test**, a member of Traverse Heart & Vascular will contact your office to confirm whether the test must be performed now, or if it can be rescheduled.

Upon notification, if a patient is uncomfortable about postponing their visit or test, we will honor their request and the visit or test will proceed as scheduled.

If you feel that a patient needs to be seen urgently or cannot be postponed, we will also proceed as requested.

If you have a question regarding how to handle a specific case, feel free to contact our office at **231-935-5800** and we will put you in contact with one of our cardiologists. We appreciate your patience as we all work through this challenging time together.

Regards,

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