

5.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SURGERY

These recommendations apply to the medical staff of the operating blocks in case COVID-19. Patients with COVID-19 may need to undergo emergency and/or emergency surgery. The following recommendations should be observed (29, 30, 31).

COVID-19 PATIENT POSITIVE ASYMPTOMATIC

1. Surgical team

- wearing disposable masks, caps and gloves correctly. Anesthesiologist and assistant nurse: FFP2 masks.
2. Patients must wear a medical mask until I.O.T. (oro-tracheal intubation).
3. Airway protection of the patient also intubated with TNT drapes compatible with anesthesiologist assistance.

SYMPTOMATIC/HAVING FEW OR MINOR SYMPTOMS POSITIVE COVID-19 PATIENT

1. Surgical team wears Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and FFP2 or FFP3 masks.

2. Anesthesiologist and nurses assigned to direct assistance: FFP2/FFP3 masks and PPE.
3. Patients must wear a medical mask for the entire time of surgery and / or after the IOT procedure for airway protection with compatible TNT drapes.

PATIENT COVID-19 SICK AND IN INVASIVE AIRWAY MANAGEMENT

1. Professionals must wear PPE and FFP2/FFP3.

While staying in the operating room it is recommended to utilise laminar flow according to current legislation and post-

intervention sanitisation for at least 1 hour.

TEAM WORKING AND ORGANISATION

Surgical teams in order to stay healthy and maintain continuity of care should divide into teams of senior and junior doctors and work for a 2 week period. After the 2 weeks, teams will come in to release the other. This will allow easier replacement of team members should they fall ill and potential containment of the virus to smaller staff numbers and an ability to maintain some service provision and clinical care.

