



# LHA COVID-19 ALERT



**LHA COVID-19 Alert: April 20, 2020**

## **LDH Relaxes Restrictions for Time-Sensitive Medical Procedures**

Today, Gov. Edwards announced that the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has issued [Order #2020-COVID19-ALL-010](#) that allows healthcare professionals to perform medical and surgical procedures to treat time-sensitive medical conditions beginning April 27, 2020.

Pursuant to the revised order, healthcare professionals can perform medical and surgical procedures that they deem time-sensitive when certain conditions are satisfied while ensuring that these services can be provided in a manner that mitigates the spread of the virus while also ensuring that hospitals maintain adequate medical staff and capacity to address any possible COVID-19 surges.

The order also requires each facility or healthcare provider that performs any medical or surgical procedure to contact the patient within 10 to 14 days post-op to determine whether the patient has signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or has tested positive for the virus since the procedure. LDH requires such contact to be documented in the patient's medical record. Further, the facility or healthcare provider must immediately inform the Office of Public Health via electronic notification if any such patient has tested positive for COVID-19.

LDH will continue to actively monitor hospital capacity across the state and will impose additional restrictions if an area or region begins to see an increase of new COVID-19 cases and an associated demand for hospital beds.

We appreciate the leadership of the governor and the Department for working collaboratively with healthcare providers to restore these important medical services. This is a critical step towards ensuring that Louisiana has a stable and robust healthcare industry that can serve all the medical needs of the residents of Louisiana.

---

This and other local, state and national hospital-specific resources and guidance from trusted sources can be found on the LHA's COVID-19 [webpage](#).

Note: This Alert is being distributed to LHA hospital **C-Suite Personnel** in the LHA database.