

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL COVID-19
COMMITTEE**

**Bulletin #106d – COVID-19 – ID-IPC – Revised OR Pathways for Orange and Red Phases
– Jan 15 2021**

**COVID-19 Infection Prevention & Control Guidance
Revisions to the OR Decision Pathways – Orange and Red Phases**

The OR Decision Pathway for the Orange and Red Phases have been revised to include the directive that prior to any surgery, pre-operative testing for COVID-19 should occur for patients who live in orange or red zones, as per [Memo #45 \(issued November 26/20\)](#).

Revisions made to the OR Decision Pathways for facilities in an [Orange](#) or [Red](#) Phase include the following:

- COVID-19 testing criteria was changed to: “Obtain COVID-19 swab for patients who meet the following testing criteria: Those who live in Orange or Red zones, those who are symptomatic, those with close contact with a known case/travel from a higher risk area, and/or those from a facility cluster.
- Reference to high-risk procedures (surgeries entering the respiratory system from sinus to diaphragm) for preoperative COVID-19 testing has been removed as per Memo #45, prior to any surgery, pre-operative testing for COVID-19 should occur for patients who live in orange or red zones.
- Increased emphasis on “risk factors on the day of surgery” will assist with decision making when a negative COVID-19 rapid test is obtained on the day of surgery. If negative, this allows more surgeries to be performed in regular OR theatres as opposed to COVID-19 OR theatres.

Please visit the [IPC Resources COVID-19 Skyline Page](#) for COVID-19 information.