

## **HOW CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) EFFECTS YOUR INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURE**

Presently all elective and non-emergent cases at the ambulatory surgery center (ASC) and hospital are postponed until further notice as per CDC recommendation. At this time, we are still offering in-office interventional procedures on a case-by-case basis to address the ever pressing need for ongoing pain management.

We understand that the decision to postpone or cancel your procedure is not an easy one. Our goal is to be here for our patients and to continue care without disruption. At this time however, safety being our primary concern, we ask you to consider postponing your case if you fall into any of the following categories:

- You are presently symptomatic or recently have experience symptoms of the flu including but not limited to fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath **OR**
- You have recently returned from outside the country or have had considerable exposed to a person who has returned from outside the country **OR**
- Your present level of pain is well-controlled **OR**
- You are a part of the identified “at-risk” groups who are susceptible to complications with COVID-19, this includes any patients over the age of 65 and those who are immunocompromised **OR**
- You have continuous contact with children, elderly or the immunocompromised

Although there is no evidence to suggest that corticosteroid injections result in a substantial increase in risk of infection with COVID-19, there is a possible reduction in the immune response for up to a few weeks. While this risk is extremely low, it needs to be taken into consideration when making the decision whether to proceed with your procedure.

As the CDC and local health department works to uncover more details on COVID-19, we may have to make changes on types of medications that we can use, as well as designating which procedures we are able perform. We ask you please understand that these policies will be put in place to protect you, as well as those that you come in close contact with, and our own office staff. Should you develop any symptoms following a procedure, we ask that you contact our office immediately just as you would have before COVID-19.