

COVID-19 practice update (02.02.2021)

We are operating at full surgical and clinical capacity.

At NOSM, we are committed to the safety of our patients and staff, and to ensure minimal risk to them and the broader community.

We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and the latest advice from health authorities; we will be updating this page as the situation changes.

Consultations

Our rooms are open at Noosa hospital, and we continue to provide face-to-face consultations. We have provided ample hand sanitiser for patients and staff and are ensuring social distancing guidelines are followed in the waiting room. If you would prefer, we are happy to offer phone consultations, but these clearly have limitations. They are best for follow-up patients that are doing well, but who may have a few simple questions. As always, feel free to contact the clinic if you wish to change to telehealth, cancel or reschedule your appointment.

Surgical Procedures

In accordance with the joint statement from the National Health Minister and specialist society representatives, the restrictions on elective surgery were eased in Queensland earlier this year. **We have returned to full capacity.**

The surgeries we routinely perform are considered high benefit procedures, including joint replacement, arthroscopy, and ACL reconstruction, so they were allowed early in the relaxation of restrictions.

Patient Support

We realise patients booked for surgery both now, and in the future, will each have to learn how to manage their pain, stiffness, instability and limitation of daily activities as best as they can. As always, regular simple analgesia, low impact exercise (especially cycling and swimming) and mobility aids (braces, splints, and walking aids) may be required for the medium term. In some cases, stronger (opiate based) analgesia is appropriate, but we would prefer to arrange consultation to discuss your strategies before considering this option as a last resort.

Now that elective surgery restrictions have been eased, we will work with all patients to expedite surgery in a timely manner but ask for your patience given the high volume of cases on our waiting list.

Contacting Us

We are still available at the clinic and contactable by phone. At present, we continue to operate our usual hours Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, (07) 5455 9465.

As we are sure everyone in our community appreciates, this is a challenging time for everyone and we're doing our best to negotiate our way through it with minimal impact to our patients. Please take care.