

# CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19 CHECKLIST FOR ALL miniER PATIENTS

## GUIDELINES DATED 02/09/2021

We are pleased to continue the capacity to do **rapid COVID-19 testing on site** utilizing NP (nasopharyngeal) swabs with results available in less than 15 minutes from the time the swab is complete. This is an immunofluorescent assay run on the Quidel Sofia 2 platform here on the premises, and we are testing patients 10 years old and up. Due to unpredictable manufacturer supply of test kits because of overwhelming national demand, we may be using the CareStart antigen test which is a lateral flow immunochromatographic assay intended for the qualitative detection of the nucleocapsid protein antigen from SARS-CoV-2.

We are doing a **MAXIMUM** of 25 rapid COVID tests per day, 7 days a week, and they are on a first come, first served basis with no exceptions after the daily allotment of tests is used. There will be days when we cannot perform any rapid testing due to test manufacturer determined allocation of test kits for our particular clinic or geographic area.

If you have any symptoms suggestive of COVID you will need to sign in for an office visit and see a provider, if you are asymptomatic and want COVID screening, you will not see a provider but will be told of your results before you leave and given an instruction sheet related to your test results. We encourage all patients **without** symptoms to book test screening on our website through the SolvHealth app located upper right of our website home page under the "Book Online" button. Cash price for COVID screening for asymptomatic patients not seeing a provider is \$85, all others will be run through your insurance if we take your plan.

We also are still providing the **COVID-19 antibody test** via venipuncture (a blood draw) which will be sent to a local reference lab, with results in back in 3-4 days based on recent turnaround times. We will be using only one room of the clinic for rapid testing, and depending on demand, we may be asking patients to sign in and do paperwork up front and meet us in our lab to do the nasal swab and have you return to the waiting room, or be escorted to an exam room, depending on availability. If demand is overwhelming, we may even be doing swabs from your car after insurance is verified or other payment has been established.

Please wear a facial mask of any type that **covers both the nose and mouth** when entering the facility and mind the chairs in the waiting room- they are set up to keep the 6 foot social distancing concept. ***If you are known to be COVID-19 positive and are accompanying a friend or family member who is to be seen by us, please wait in the car or outside the clinic for the well-being of our staff and other patients.***

About our rapid COVID-19 antigen test:

Antigen tests produce results faster than their molecular counterparts (the RT-PCR tests). They are made to quickly detect fragments of proteins found on/ within the virus by testing samples collected from nasal swabs. Molecular, or RT-PCR tests, were developed to detect nucleic acid (genetic material) from SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Those tests take longer, are slightly more accurate, but are more expensive and harder to obtain for the outpatient setting. *Be aware that many travel authorities and destination countries require the RT-PCR test and may not accept the results of our antigen test- it is the responsibility of the traveler/patient to find out which test is accepted.*

**As is required by law**, we will be reporting all testing (either positive or negative results) to the Orange County Health Department which includes your name, contact information, race, and DOB. This is **mandatory**, not voluntary per government regulations.

