

Information for Vanderbilt Eye Institute patients

This document contains information regarding coronavirus (COVID-19) as it applies to patients with eye conditions.

Key recommendations for all persons – independent of age or health status

- Practice social distancing – stay home when possible, avoid handshakes, avoid crowded areas such as restaurants, bars and malls.
- Hand hygiene – wash hands with soap and water frequently, use hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol when soap is not available, avoid touching your nose, mouth and eyes.
- If sick – cover coughs and sneezes, stay home, call your doctor for directions on where to go if you need testing.

What changes can you expect at the Vanderbilt eye clinic during your next visit?

Several changes have been instituted at Vanderbilt Medical centers to protect our patients and staff.

- Screening – you will be asked if you have fever or flu like symptoms, and if you have travelled to a high-risk area. If there is concern for illness, you will be directed to the appropriate testing facility.
- Visitor policy – Only 1 visitor per patient will be allowed into the clinics. No children under 16 years will be permitted.
- Waiting areas – The waiting room chairs are placed further apart, and all frequently touched objects are removed. High traffic areas and clinic rooms are being cleaned more frequently.

Do you have to hold or stop your medications during the pandemic?

- Please continue to use all your eye drops and medications as advised by your eye care provider.
- Please call your pharmacy to arrange for refills of your medications. Some pharmacies are delivering medications home.

Should you cancel your clinic appointments?

- Please stay home if feeling sick
- Follow recommendations provided by CDC and TN department of health
- VUMC will continue to provide quality service and care to patients who need eye care.