



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

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COVID 19: Elective Case Triage Guidelines for Surgical Care

Orthopaedics

The AAOS supports the recommendations on delaying elective surgeries advocated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the American College of Surgeons (ACS), and the U.S. Surgeon General. **CMS Adult Elective Surgery and Procedures Recommendations; ACS Recommendations for Management of Elective Surgical Procedures.**

In addition, the ACS is publishing a twice-weekly newsletter to keep surgeons informed and updated on best practices.

Below, is a table of orthopaedic procedures and recommendations per University of Pennsylvania.

	Phase II		Phase III	
	Curial elective practice		Eliminate elective practice	
	Schedule	Reschedule	Schedule	Reschedule
Sports	Acute knee pain with injury	Chronic knee pain	New lower extremity injury with inability to bear weight on extremity	All acute pains of lower extremity with ability to bear weight
	Acute shoulder pain with injury	Chronic shoulder pain	Any concern for infections	All acute pains of upper extremity with ability to move joint
	Acute ankle pain with injury	Chronic ankle pain	New upper extremity injury with inability to actively move joint	
	Acute elbow pain with injury	Chronic elbow pain	Concern for major muscle tear	
	Acute hip pain with injury	Chronic hip pain	Concern for Dislocation of joint	
		Concern for Fracture of bone		
Trauma	All new fractures	Fractures > 4 weeks old	All new fractures	"Soft tissue injury"
	Acute traumatic injury		Quad tendon rupture	Patients without a diagnosis
	Nonunions/Malunions/Infections		Patellar Tendon rupture	Nonunions
			Acute change of a chronic injury with inability to function	Chronic Infections
				Malunions
			Nonunions	
Adult Recon	Acute knee pain	Chronic knee pain	Hip dislocation	Acute or chronic knee pain
	Acute Hip pain	Chronic hip pain	Knee dislocation	Acute or chronic hip pain
	Unable to weight bear		Periprosthetic fracture	
	Hip dislocation		Acute inability to weight bear	
	Knee dislocation		Acute pain exacerbation with prior joint replacement	
	Prior hip or knee replacement with acute pain exacerbation		Wound drainage, fever, concern for periprosthetic infection	
	Wound drainage, fever, concern for infection with prior joint replacement			
Spine	cervical myelopathy	low back pain	Clavicle fracture	
	acute radiculopathy	neck pain	progressive neurologic deficit (emergency)	
	acute compression fracture	flat back syndrome	epidural abscess (emergency)	
	discitis/osteomyelitis	scoliosis without neuro deficit	spine trauma	
	proximal junctional kyphosis	revision surgery (in absence of new progressive neuro deficit)		
	scoliosis with neuro deficit			
Ortho Onc	Infection including infected joints	Benign ST masses	Infection including infected joints	
	Sarcoma/other primary malignancy in a 'chemo or radiation window'	Benign bone tumors that can wait	Sarcoma/other primary malignancy in a 'chemo or radiation window'	
	Aggressive benign tumors (GCT)	Elective joint replacement	Aggressive benign tumors (GCT)	
	Impending path fx (including periprosthetic) path fx		Impending path fx (including periprosthetic) path fx	
Foot & Ankle	acute foot and ankle fractures	every thing else	acute foot and ankle fractures	every thing else
	achilles ruptures		achilles ruptures	
Shoulder & Elbow	Acute severe pain	Shoulder/elbow arthritis	Falls with inability to move shoulder or elbow	New onset shoulder or elbow pain without trauma**
	Falls with loss of function	Unchanged chronic pain with retained function**	Proximal Humerus Fracture	Shoulder/elbow arthritis
	Any fracture	Hospital discharge without inpatient consult	Humeral shaft fracture	Chronic shoulder pain with function intact
	Any acute changes in function of shoulder or elbow	Hospital consultation shoulder betriaged	Distal humerus fracture	Self scheduling without screening
	Any neurological issues	Chronic cuff disease with unchanged function**	Elbow fracture dislocation	Chronic shoulder dislocations with joint reduced
	Any infection		Elbow or shoulder dislocation	Chronic elbow dislocation with joint reduced
		Olecranon Fracture		
		New loss of function**		
		Acute onset neurological complaints		
		Any infection		
		Clavicle fracture		
Hand	Laceration with tendon, nerve injury	Healed lacerations with no tendon, nerve injury	acute Laceration with tendon, nerve injury within 2 weeks	lacerations over 2 weeks
	acute infections	chronic and resolved infections	acute infection	chronic infection ie chronic osteomyelitis
	acute fractures hand, wrist, elbow requiring surgical treatment	tendonitis hand, wrist, elbow trigger finger, dequervain's, epicondylitis (tennis/golfer's elbow)	acute fractures requiring surgical management	tendonitis hand, wrist, elbow trigger finger, dequervain's, epicondylitis (tennis/golfer's elbow)
	acute injury hand, wrist, elbow within 2 weeks	nerve compression syndromes carpal tunnel, cubital tunnel, etc	Acute high energy injury hand, wrist, elbow pain without prior evaluation	nerve compression syndromes carpal tunnel, cubital tunnel etc
	chronic fracture over 6 weeks		nonop fractures and Fractures over 2 weeks	
	injury hand, wrist, elbow over 2 weeks		injury hand, wrist, elbow pain over 2 weeks	
	**OK for Telemedicine		**OK for Telemedicine	