



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

NERA is still offering interventional procedures. Our goal is to be here for our patients and to continue care without disruption. Safety being our primary concern, we ask you to consider postponing your case if you fall into any of the following categories:

- You have or recently had symptoms of the flu including but not limited to fever, chills, cough, or shortness of breath OR,
- You have recently returned from international travel or an area with an increase in COVID-19 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 unless pain is severe or debilitating OR,
- You have continuous contact with infants, elderly or the immunocompromised OR,
- You suffer from chronic medical conditions such as asthma, COPD, chronic kidney or liver disease, or diabetes.

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 work 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 to perform.

Please understand that these policies are in place to protect you, as well as those that you come in 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.