

July 26, 2021

To Our Valued Patients and Families:

Northwest Kidney Centers is continuing to require that all patients wear masks in our clinics, even after they are fully vaccinated. We are continuing to limit visitors. We believe this policy is necessary to protect our patients and staff, given the current levels of COVID-19 transmission as well as the increasing numbers of variants.

Our masking policy supports the updated guidance from Public Health Seattle and King County, announced on May 20th, which states that a well-fitted mask must be worn by everyone 5 years of age and older in healthcare settings and hospitals.

We are also following recently updated guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention by continuing to require the use of well-fitting masks in healthcare facilities. The CDC noted some people – including those, like many of our patients, who have weakened immune systems – remain at high risk from COVID-19 even after being fully vaccinated. When we wear masks, we are helping to protect them.

Since the start of the pandemic, Northwest Kidney Centers has put into place mask safety precautions. Because COVID-19 is still a serious public threat, this is not the right time to let down our guard. We will continue to screen employees, patients and visitors when they enter our clinics, and we ask everyone to maintain physical distancing.

If you are not yet vaccinated, we strongly encourage you to get vaccinated as soon as possible. Many healthcare systems have walk in appointments. Please let your care team know if you need assistance in accessing the vaccine.

Northwest Kidney Centers is also preparing for our fall flu vaccination campaign. We will begin offering flu vaccine at your dialysis clinic on October 1st. We strongly encourage you and your loved ones to be vaccinated against flu.

Thank you for all you're doing to help us keep each other safe. And thank you so much for letting Northwest Kidney Centers take care of you and your loved ones.



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