

RENOWN RESUMES MEDICALLY-NECESSARY SURGERIES IN PHASED APPROACH

*Health System Follows Governor's Announcement to Resume Necessary Surgeries on May 11,
Remains Ready for Possible COVID-19 Surge*

Reno, NV. – May 1, 2020 –Renown Health announced today that they will align with the Governor's Office and the state Medical Advisory Team in adopting a phased-in approach to resume limited medical and surgical procedures under strict guidelines and lift temporary restrictions due to the COVID-19 virus. The decision follows yesterday's release of Governor Sisolak's "*Nevada United: A Roadmap to Recovery*," a plan designed to move forward to safely restart Nevada under a "new normal." The health system will begin a phased approach to scheduling non-high risk patients as soon as Monday, May 4 for necessary surgeries beginning on Monday, May 11, 2020.

"We're able to resume some surgical services due to the flattening of the COVID-19 surge curve and the low COVID-19 transmission rate within our community due to the implementation of strong social distancing practices," said Tony Slonim, MD, DrPH, President and CEO, Renown Health. He added, "Our primary concern will always be the health and safety of our patients, physicians, healthcare employees and community members. We continue to monitor the surge curve and our current situation. Until a vaccine or cure is found, Renown Health remains prepared at all times to handle a surge and continues to care for those across northern Nevada."

"Elective-optional" procedural cases were temporarily postponed at Renown hospitals on March 17, to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to preserve critical resources.

Christopher P. Demers, MD, FAANS, Managing Partner at Sierra Neurosurgery Group and Medical Director of Neurosurgery at Renown, said, "I know how important surgery is to enhancing a patient's quality of life. I am privileged to have the opportunity to perform surgeries that help people get back to doing the activities they love. We are guided by a simple and important principle: the patient always comes first."

"This is excellent news for so many patients who may have placed their surgeries and care plans on hold due to COVID-19," said Christos Galanopoulos, MD, chair, department of surgery for Renown Medical Group, and a specialist in oncologic surgery. "Renown's expert team is ready to deliver safe and effective care to all patients and has earned recognition as the region's leader in patient safety, technology and specialized care," said Galanopoulos. "We are proud of the incredibly detailed health and safety measures in place at Renown."

Health and safety protocols in place at Renown facilities include:

- All individuals entering Renown sites, including team members, are screened for COVID-19 symptoms;
- Patients scheduled for elective procedures will be tested for COVID-19 up to 5 days prior to scheduled procedure date. Patients will remain in isolation following the test, up to the time of surgery.
- Positive COVID-19 patients and symptomatic patients will not be scheduled for elective surgery.
- All individuals entering Renown sites are asked to don a cloth mask. Patients may bring their own mask or may opt to wear one supplied by Renown.

- All care team members wear surgical masks and protective eye wear, as well as other necessary personal protective equipment (PPE), at all times when caring for patients.
- Visitor restrictions are still in place. A support person is still encouraged for surgical patients, delivering OB mothers; children under the age of 18; patients with confusion, altered mental status or developmental delays; and end-of-life patients.
- Six-foot social distances have been established in public areas such as waiting rooms, elevators, cafeterias.
- Extra cleaning and disinfection is in place for all high-touch, public surface areas.

Erik Olson, MHA, Chief Executive Officer of Renown Regional Medical Center adds, “Renown’s mission is to make a genuine difference in the health and well-being of the people and communities we serve. We deliver on this promise by collaborating with expert surgeons to offer general and specialized surgical interventions to alleviate disabilities and reduce the risk of death from traumatic injuries, cancers, cardiovascular disease and other conditions. Together we are dedicated to delivering safe, high-quality, compassionate, personalized health care.”

Patients who wish to schedule their elective surgery or outpatient procedure should first contact their appropriate ordering provider.

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Those interested in supporting Renown’s healthcare heroes are invited to visit www.renown.org/give for more ways on how to help. For up-to-date information on Renown’s approach to keeping our community safe, visit our website at www.renown.org/covid-19/.

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About Renown Health

Renown Health is a locally governed and locally owned, not-for-profit integrated healthcare network serving northern Nevada, Lake Tahoe and northeast California. Renown is one of the region’s largest private employers with a workforce of more than 7,000. It comprises three acute care hospitals, a rehabilitation hospital, the area’s most comprehensive medical group and urgent care network, and the region’s largest and only locally owned not-for-profit insurance company, Hometown Health. Renown has a long tradition and commitment to continually improve the care and the health of our community. For more information, visit renown.org.