



## Changes in Outpatient Cardiovascular Services

As part of Intermountain Healthcare's commitment to public health stewardship during the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) pandemic and the appropriate use of resources for our cardiology patients, please **do not** schedule urgent testing in **clinically stable** patients.

We acknowledge that needs in cardiac care will continue during the pandemic and we look forward to meeting them.

We value the opportunity to partner with you on the following strategy:

- Cardiac testing orders will be categorized as **"Clinically Stable/Non-Urgent"** or **"Urgent"**
  - **Clinically Stable/Non-Urgent:** Safe to postpone 4-6 weeks or more
    - To order, keep the **"Routine"** default selected under the priority drop down.
      - If faxing an order, please note "Routine" on the paper order.
    - If classified as non-urgent, we suggest communicating the following message to the patient:  
*"Our clinical guidelines suggest this exam may not be urgent and could be postponed. We are currently scheduling non-urgent exams about six weeks from now. Are you comfortable scheduling your exam at this future date?"*
    - Some examples of clinically stable/non-urgent testing indications may include, but aren't limited to: palpitations in the absence of high-risk features, new murmur in an asymptomatic patient, and stress echo for a family history of premature CAD.
  - **Urgent:** Schedule as soon as possible
    - To order, select **"ASAP"** in the priority dropdown; type in "ASAP" or "Urgent" in "Notes to Scheduler."
      - If faxing an order, please note "ASAP" or "Urgent" on the paper order.
    - Some examples of urgent testing indications may include, but aren't limited to: angina, severe valve disease, decompensated heart failure, or suspected endocarditis.
- Orders from Emergency Departments or Instacare clinics will be prioritized for testing.
- For patients who do not want their cardiac testing postponed, we are here to serve them and will provide safe care with additional precautions in place.
- **If you have questions or concerns about a particular patient, our Cardiology teams are glad to provide a telephone Cardiology consultation.**