

PREMIER Bone and Joint's Response to COVID-19 Threat to Wyoming

To Our PREMIER Bone and Joint Patients:

March 19, 2020

At this time of concern and uncertainty surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19), we want you to know that at PREMIER Bone and Joint Centers, the health and well-being of our patients, employees, family, friends, and community is our top priority. We are committed to being responsive to your needs in the most responsible way as this situation evolves. We are doing our best to keep our facility infection-free, in order to best serve those in need of urgent or emergent orthopedic care in the coming weeks.

At the direction of the Center of Disease Control (CDC), we strongly encourage you to protect yourself and family and implement steps to prevent illness. This includes, staying at home, social distancing, limiting your travel to only instances of necessity, and, washing your hands frequently; if you become sick, practice good respiratory etiquette, (cough or sneeze into your elbow), eliminate handshaking (elbo bumps are fun!) call your health care provider in advance of a visit, limit movement within your community, and limit visitors. We will be using a ring system to admit patients through our front doors, as for the most part they will remain locked during our normal clinic hours, starting March 23.

In consideration of the current circumstances, PREMIER Bone and Joint Centers is going into "operation limited exposure"-- in an effort to be responsible caregivers in our community, we are being responsive to CDC's recommendation on social distancing -- this means that for the upcoming few weeks, we are adjusting our model of delivering care to our patients in order to eliminate as much unnecessary traffic into our facilities as possible. We will continuously re-evaluate and make decisions on whether or not to extend this mode or modify this practice. We will continue to receive phone calls and see patients on an urgent or emergent basis for those injuries that cannot be treated by phone or safely postponed for a short period of time. For all non-urgent office visits, our physicians will be communicating with patients via telemedicine technology and will do their best to deliver exactly the same standard of care as would be delivered in person. We will be communicating with you in the coming days as to any upcoming visit you may have, and how that visit will be handled. Following the Surgeon General's recommendation, and in an effort to reduce unneeded exposures and conserve limited resources, we are also limiting elective surgeries, to treating only those issues that are life-threatening, or if postponed would create an adverse outcome in your condition. Our surgery scheduling office will be communicating with you if you have a planned surgery scheduled in the next few weeks. Our offices in cities other than Laramie will be closed, with emergent issues in those locations handled on a case-by-case basis, triaged by your treating physician. Bottom line, we are here for you and we will be as accessible as possible during these trying times.

For additional information about COVID-19, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

The health and safety of our local community is priority one and of the utmost importance. We continue to monitor this quickly evolving situation; we continue to keep in contact with our state and local health officials. We urge you to Please take care of yourself, your family, and your friends. If we stay united, we can make our community stronger. Thank you for your understanding. Our pledge to you is to continue to stay WORTHY OF WYOMING.