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## Elective Surgeries

### 1- Introduction:

Policy developed to advice on postponement of elective treatments during the effective period mentioned in the circular due to Covid 19.

### 2- Definitions / Key Terms:

#### 2-1 Payers (Insurance Companies)

Companies, which are licensed by the Dubai Department of Economic Development and UAE Insurance Authority to sell health insurance products to the public.

#### 2-2 Healthcare Providers

Government or private healthcare facilities comprising Hospitals, Medical Centers, Clinics, Laboratories, Diagnostic Centers, Pharmacies and other affiliated entities , which are licensed by Dubai Health Authority (DHA) to provide healthcare services in the Emirate of Dubai with respect to medical insurance.

#### 2-3 Elective Surgery

An Elective Surgery is defined as planned, non-emergency surgical procedure performed that improve the quality of life physically and /or psychologically.

### 3- Purpose of Policy:

3-1 The policy aims to advise payers of treatment towards any elective surgery requests during the effective period of this policy. Any approval requests received by payers from providers, can be approved, however treatment should not be provided until after the expiry date of this policy directive.

### 4- Policy Objectives:

4-1 To advise the payers of postponement of elective treatments and to advise on treatment towards any elective surgery requests during the period of this policy and thereafter.

### 5- Scope:

5-1 To advise on postponement of elective treatments.

5-2 Should an elective surgery approval request be received and approved by the payer during the effective dates of this policy directive, the payer will be required to issue an approval valid for at minimum 30 days starting from the date of expiry of this policy directive or any extension thereof. Should the policy expire or member move to an alternate insurer, the treatment will have to be covered by the originally approving payer.

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## Elective Surgeries

### 6- Policy Stakeholders:

6-1 Payers

6-2 Third Party Claims Administrators

6-3 Health Insurance Intermediaries

6-3 Providers

6-4 Insured members/patients

### 7- Policy Implementation Required Resources:

Circulars released by DHIC

### 8- Policy Content:

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## Elective Surgeries

8-1 This policy directive aims to advise payers and providers of treatment towards any elective surgery requests during the effective period of the policy

As per the effective dates of this policy, any approval requests received by payers from providers, can be approved, however treatment should not be provided until after the expiry date of this policy directive.

Approvals for insured patients, who have not undergone treatment yet, will need to remain valid until this restriction is lifted, the validity of approval should be extended to no less than 30 days from the date this restriction is lifted.

The policy directive has been issued in consultation with the DHA Health Regulation Sector, aims to clarify the requirement of the treating physician to practice due diligence.

Any elective surgeries not listed below, may be allowed to continue only as per medical urgency and necessity, at the sole discretion and assessment of the treating physician and clinical situation of the patient or if it is emergency.

Below are examples of elective surgeries and procedures that can be allowed during the stipulated period:

- Oncology cases and suspected malignancy diagnostic procedures for all the specialties.
- Neurosurgery procedures.
- Orthopedic procedures: fractures, Correction procedures.
- Cardiology procedures.
- Interventional radiology procedures.
- Obstetrics & Gynecology: IVF, Elective Cesarean Section, Dilatation and Curettage (D&C), Endometrial Ablation, Colporrhaphy.
- Urology: Ureteroscopy Intervention for stone fragmentation, Internal Urethrotomy, Cystoscopy, Removal of stent & Catheterization.
- General Surgery: Drainage of Abscesses, Colorectal procedures, wound debridement procedures.
- Ophthalmology procedures: Chalazion and cyst removal, glaucoma, retinal procedures.
- Pediatric and neonatology procedures

### 9- Deployment Methodology: (Check all that apply)

Announcement

Awareness

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## Elective Surgeries

Training

On Job Training

### 10- Policy Performance Indicators:

10-1 Monitor the number of claims during the Covid 19 period for elective surgeries and procedures.

### 11- List of Risks:

11-1 Performing elective surgery or procedures during the time of Covid.

11-2 Healthcare providers and anesthesiologists, in particular, are at high risk of contracting the COVID-19 infection, especially during aerosol-generating procedures such as endotracheal intubation it is imperative to understand that COVID-19 infection is highly contagious, and it is not unexpected that anesthesiologists will encounter patients scheduled for surgery who are either silent carriers or actual COVID-19 patients.

### 12- Policy Revision/Update :

N/A

### 13- Audit, Improvement & Development:

13-1 Internal audit for compliance with the document content

13-2 Corrective actions for non-conformities with the document content

### 14- Records List\*

14-1

### 15- Appendices \*

15-1References

Policy Directive Number 03 of 2020 (PD 03/2020)

<https://www.isahd.ae/content/docs/PD%2003-2020.pdf>

Policy Directive Number 05 of 2020 (PD 05/2020)

<https://www.isahd.ae/content/docs/PD%2005-2020.pdf>

Policy Directive Number 06 of 2020 (PD 06/2020)

<https://www.isahd.ae/content/docs/PD%2006-2020.pdf>

15-1Attachments

Policy Directive Number 03 of 2020 (PD 03/2020)

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## Elective Surgeries

Policy Directive Number 05 of 2020 (PD 05/2020)

Policy Directive Number 06 of 2020 (PD 06/2020)

N.B.: “\*” Put “N/A” if there is nothing to write.

*(the document)* to be replaced by document title

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## Elective Surgeries

### Revision History

S.	Summary	Amend Type*	Page	Issue No.	Issue Date
1	Elective Surgeries for insured patients	Modify		PD 03/2020	19-03-2020
2	Elective Surgeries for insured patients	Modify		PD 05/2020	24-03-2020
3	Elective Surgeries for insured patients	Modify		PD 06/2020	30-04-2020

\* Amend Type: Add – Modify – Cancel

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