



Providing Excellence to the Practice of Occupational Medicine

COVID -19 and Immigration

At Oregon Occupational Medicine, we understand that our current world circumstances regarding the pandemic of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) may bring up many questions about both occupational medicine and Immigration needs. Here are several frequently-asked questions, along with our answers, in hopes to address the current topics and concerns accurately.

FAQ's

Are you still open and operating? 1

Are you still performing Medical Exams and Record Reviews for Immigration? 2

Will my immigration exam be any different because of the COVID-19 pandemic?..... 2

Will I be checked for COVID-19 during my Medical Exam? 2

Do I need a vaccine for COVID-19 in order to be up-to-date for immigration standards? 3

What if the COVID-19 pandemic delays my immigration process? 3

CDC COVID-19 website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/> CDC Travelers' Health website: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel> 3

Are you still open and operating?

Yes. We are still open for business but are taking the utmost precaution with our staff and patients to ensure safety. The current concerns with COVID-19 have caused us to enforce the following measures:

- We are not currently testing or treating any patients for coronavirus/COVID 19 in our clinic. *(To our knowledge, these services are only being performed by Urgent Care Clinics or Emergency Rooms which we are not).*
- We are verifying all patients are healthy before appointments and upon arrival (Example: confirming that patients do not currently have any cold or flu-like symptoms, have not traveled recently, or been around someone who is ill, etc.).
- Requesting that anyone who does not feel well or who has recently been ill to wait to schedule for at least 2 weeks.
- Performing regular rigorous cleaning throughout the day.
- Maintaining window barriers in the lobby.



Providing Excellence to the Practice of Occupational Medicine

- Rooming patients and taking their temperatures immediately instead of having them sit in the lobby.
- Limiting the number of people in our clinic lobby.
- Limiting the types of exams we are performing during this time that would more easily transmit this contagious virus.

Are you still performing Medical Exams and Record Reviews for Immigration?

Yes, we are still scheduling Immigration exams at both of our Tualatin and Hillsboro clinics, as long as scheduled patients are not currently experiencing any flu-like symptoms, have not been around anyone currently experiencing flu-like symptoms over the past 2 weeks, nor have traveled recently. Appointments can be scheduled between 8am and 3pm via phone call or email, Monday through Friday. All screenings and vaccinations are still available as usual.

Will my immigration exam be any different because of the COVID-19 pandemic?

In many ways, the immigration exams will be the same as usual. Registration will be a bit more health-conscious, but the rest of the immigration exam remains the same: a basic health exam, discussion of your health with the Civil Surgeon, and review of your immigration records.

At the end of your time with the Civil Surgeon, you will receive the three required screenings through blood draws and a urine sample (Tuberculosis, Syphilis and Gonorrhea), and be informed of any vaccines you may be needing to be up-to-date. Those vaccines can be administered same-day or at a separate clinic depending on patient preference.

Will I be checked for COVID-19 during my Medical Exam?

No. It is the role of our Civil Surgeons to take a thorough travel history and detect any signs and symptoms of this infection among those being examined. The current Immigration Physical Exam using Form I-693 does not have a specific section to confirm or deny the presence of COVID-19 symptoms or history, nor does USCIS require COVID-19 laboratory testing as part of the status adjustment medical examination, however documentation of overall health is noted.



Providing Excellence to the Practice of Occupational Medicine

If the examination reveals an acute illness that makes it impossible to determine a person's medical status regarding Class A or B conditions, the Civil Surgeon will require the person to get medical treatment until they have recovered. This means that if any alien is currently ill, including persons suspected of having COVID-19, they should seek medical care for their infection and return for their Civil Surgeon examination when they are well.

<https://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/exams/ti/civil/technical-instructions/civil-surgeons/medical-history-physical-examination.html?deliveryName=DM21276>

Do I need a vaccine for COVID-19 in order to be up-to-date for immigration standards?

No. There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and therefore has not been included as part of the immunization requirements for immigration. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fprepare%2Fprevention.html
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>

What if the COVID-19 pandemic delays my immigration process?

It is important that you consult with your legal advisor for how to continue fulfilling the steps needed for Adjustment of Status, even with the COVID 19 pandemic. Many scheduled appointments are being rescheduled, but compliance is still required for different aspects of the AOS immigration process.

<https://www.ice.gov/coronavirus>
<https://www.uscis.gov/about-us/uscis-response-coronavirus-2019-covid-19>

Additional Reference Websites:

CDC COVID-19 website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>

CDC Travelers' Health website: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>