



**BIOART FERTILITY CLINIC**  
**COVID-19 Protocol & Directives**

This Protocol and Directives document must be communicated to all current and new patients.

As you are well aware, the COVID-19 virus outbreak has recently been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) and also a “state of disaster” by the South African government.

We (BioART) have received numerous enquiries regarding how the outbreak of COVID-19 will affect procedures and other day to day activities at BioART.

BioART would like to inform you regarding the measures and steps taken by BioART to ensure the safety of staff and patients alike.

The following Directives and Protocols will be enforced by BioART management until further notice:

**Directives:**

- 1) If:
  - (a) you have travelled to any high-risk COVID-19 country in the last 21 days; or
  - (b) you have or display any symptoms of COVID-19 or if you have tested and confirmed positive for COVID-19,we request that you act responsibly and comply with the national guidelines to avoid further spread of the virus and for the health and safety of yourself and others. PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE CLINIC.
- 2) If you have been tested and confirmed positive for COVID-19 and are on fertility treatment – all fertility treatment is to be stopped immediately. Upon full recovery, please book a follow-up appointment to discuss the way forward.
- 3) All foreign (non-South African) patients are advised to please inform the clinic if they are booked for a procedure / scan and are unable to enter the country due to entry restrictions.
- 4) If you have any worries or concerns and would like to rebook / reschedule your appointment, we request that you kindly advise us as soon as possible and we will be more than happy to accommodate you accordingly.
- 5) All patients who are in the country and are clinically well and currently undergoing treatment, we do not recommend that the treatment cycle is stopped. This will not only incur unnecessary financial costs to you but there is no reason or evidence to suggest that your treatment will be compromised in any way. (This is in accordance with the ASRM- American Society of Reproductive medicine)

**Protocols:**

- 1) Strict infection control protocols are in place. All equipment used is to be sterilized as per infection control policy.
- 2) Surgical gloves are to be worn by all staff for all procedures.
- 3) All staff to wash hands and/or use disinfectant hand sprays between procedures, consults and scans etc.
- 4) All patients will be screened on entry to the clinic (as per national guidelines) including questions and temperature checking, and only allowed entry if screened negative. Patients may be required to be tested for COVID19 if deemed necessary before consult or treatment.
- 5) Disinfectant hand spray to be used by all patients and staff on entry and exit of the clinic.
- 6) Procedure rooms, bathrooms and common areas to be scrubbed down/ disinfected twice daily by cleaning staff.
- 7) Limit the number of patients in the waiting area to a maximum of 12 persons at any given time. If more than 12 people are waiting or if the doctors are running late - patients will be requested to kindly wait in their vehicles and will be called when the doctor is ready to see them. This is to avoid overcrowding and close contact between people.

All the above measures are precautionary. We request that everyone acts responsibly and takes precautions without any unnecessary panic. Patient and staff safety is of utmost importance to us.

At present, we can confirm that all staff at BioART have been screened accordingly and that no staff member has / displays any symptoms of the COVID-19 virus. Should there be any changes in this regard – all necessary precautionary measures will be taken.

Your co-operation with regards to the above measures will be appreciated.

If you have any queries or require clarity regarding the above, please contact Adila on 011 484-5168/  
[adila@bioartfertility.co.za](mailto:adila@bioartfertility.co.za)

Regards,

BioART Management Team