

**April, 2020**

## **Paragon Orthopedic Center Grants Pass, Oregon**

### **BREAKING NEWS**

Paragon Orthopedic Center received some of the best news this morning, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, from our Governor, Kate Brown. She is lifting the restrictions for doing elective surgeries as of May 1<sup>st</sup>. We realize there are many of you who had your expected surgery dates cancelled due to the coronavirus epidemic. You will be called soon by our staff to get you back on the schedule as soon as possible. For those who have been seen by Dr. Bents or Dr. Van Horne since the crisis began and have been waiting to get on the schedule for surgery, you will be called as well. Please give us time to reach you; there are many people waiting for surgery. Our office has kicked into high gear to get in touch with everyone.

Now that elective surgeries have the green light, doctors will prioritize surgeries based on:

- previous surgery date
- urgency of the patient's condition and other medical issues
- availability of equipment and medicines

With the disruption of our world's delivery/supply chains, there are still some medicines and surgical equipment that are in short supply, so surgeries will be scheduled according to what is available. Paragon Orthopedic Center is working with the surgery center, hospital, and other clinics in our area to make sure the healthcare needs for everyone are met.

As for clinic visits, you will be called to reschedule these visits. We know you're anxious to be seen. Since COVID-19 is a continuing threat, Paragon is still limiting the number of guests coming in with the patient both for your safety and for the safety of our staff.

Dr. Rob Bents and Dr. Jim Van Horne have been anticipating getting back to work for you and are eagerly awaiting the time they can address your surgical needs. They will be maximizing the time they are given by the surgery center. Please know that everyone is important to us. As stated by the governor, we would have to scale back surgeries should there be an outbreak of cases in our area, so we will keep you informed as soon as possible if changes occur. If you have any questions, please call our office at 541-472-0603. You can read more about this breaking news here:

<https://www.opb.org/news/article/oregon-governor-lifting-restrictions-hospital-non-essential-procedures-covid-19-coronavirus-may/>