



## **PRESS RELEASE - 3 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 19, 2020

### **ProMedica Bixby – Herrick Updates**

In order to protect our patients, the community and our staff, we have made some changes to operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As of 03/17/2020 we have been a “restricted visitation” status. Visitors will be screened at all open entrances for fever over 100.5 degrees and/or cough or respiratory symptoms. If the visitor fails this screening they will not be allowed in the facility in an effort to protect our patients and staff.

#### **1. Open Entrances: Bixby**

- The Emergency Department entrance is open 24 hours a day with screening procedures as noted above. During business hours this entrance should only be utilized for emergencies. After business hours all people will be entering via the Emergency Department and screened.
- The main hospital entrance will be opened and manned for screening from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm on weekdays and 8:00 am until 7:00 pm on weekends.

#### **2. Open Entrance: Herrick**

- The Emergency Department will be the only entrance for the hospital. It will be open 24 hours a day with screening.

#### **3. Obstetrics**

- For outpatient procedures such as non-stress testing, no visitors will be allowed unless the patient is a minor. One adult visitor (over the age of 18) that has screened negative for illness may accompany the minor patient.
- If an obstetrical patient is admitted they will be allowed 2 adult visitors over the age of 18 that screen negative illness.

#### **4. Medical Surgical Floors and Intensive Care Units**

- These units are under strict visitor restrictions with no visitors allowed. Exceptions would include defined end of life situations and other situations that will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

#### **5. Emergency Department**

- The Emergency Department is under strict visitor restrictions with no visitors allowed unless the patient is a minor. If the patient is a minor one adult visitor (over the age of 18) who has screened negative will be allowed to accompany the patient in the treatment area. Patients under the age of 18 will be allowed one adult visitor, preferred parent or guardian, that screens negative. Exceptions would include end of life situations and other situations that will be evaluated on a case by case basis. No visitors will be allowed to wait in the Emergency Department waiting room, anybody that

presents with the patient will be instructed to wait in their car or return home to await a call from staff when we make a decision on admit versus discharge.

Many aspects of patient care in regards to the COVID-19 patients are very fluid in nature. Restrictions change almost daily if not several times a day. ProMedica Bixby and Herrick Hospitals have been working in cooperation with ProMedica Health Systems and have each established Incident Command Systems to better monitor our processes throughout this event.

Individuals who have developed symptoms within 14 days of either close contact with a lab confirmed COVID-19 patient or international travel may call the **ProMedica 24/7 Screening Hotline: (419) 291-5355** to determine if they should be tested.

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