



March 19, 2020

Dear Community Members:

Each day brings new challenges in our efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 outbreak, and its impact on our community. We understand the anxiety and stress you and your families are experiencing; from shortages of food and supplies, school closures and potential job losses to fear of contracting COVID-19. The best way we can support you is to provide the care you and your family need, and doing so in a safe manner.

For that reason, we have made some important temporary changes at Speare to protect our patients and employees from exposure, but also to preserve the testing supplies and protective equipment necessary to care for those ill with COVID-19. A summary of those changes follows.

VISITOR POLICY

Speare has instituted a restricted visitor policy. Only the following visitors will be allowed into the hospital.

- Only one healthy birthing partner will be permitted for Maternity patients
- Only one healthy visitor may accompany a patient to our Oncology Department
- Only one healthy parent or guardian will be permitted for Pediatric patients
- Only one healthy person at a time for patients at end of life
- Anyone bringing patients for outpatient services or an appointment in our physician practices will need to drop off and pick up the patient; not attend the appointment with the patient.

ENTRANCE RESTRICTIONS

Entrances to the hospital will be restricted to the following

Hospital Main Entrance

Monday-Friday: 6 AM - 5 PM

Weekends: Closed

Emergency Department Entrance

Monday – Friday: 6:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Weekends: 7:00 am - 7:00 PM

Ambulance Entrance to be used all other times

Entrance to Boulder Point

Main Entrance Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 5 PM

PATIENT AND VISITOR SCREENING

- All patients and visitors of Speare Memorial Hospital, Boulder Point and our other off-site locations will be screened for signs and symptoms associated with COVID-19.
- If you are a visitor and screen positive because of recent travel or illness, we must respectfully ask you not to enter our facility.
- If you have a scheduled appointment or seek medical care and screen positive because of recent travel or illness, you will be given a face mask and directed to the appropriate location.

DELAYING ELECTIVE SURGERIES AND PROCEDURES

We are delaying some elective surgeries and procedures amid the evolving COVID-19 situation. Staff are reaching out to patients who are scheduled for surgeries or procedures that meet the criteria for the delay. Patients should contact their provider if they have additional questions.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM, REHABFIT AND USE OF CONFERENCE ROOMS

We have temporarily suspended our Volunteer Program as well as the use of our Conference Rooms by outside groups. RehabFit will closed until further notice.

RESOURCE LINE AND WEBSITE

We have implemented a resource line for our community. The number is 603-238-6464. There is an automated message with up-to-date information, and the ability to speak with someone if you have further questions. We will continually update our website for pertinent COVID-19 information and updates on Speare's related actions.

These changes have been implemented in an effort to support public health efforts to curb the number of COVID-19 cases. Our decisions are not made lightly or without an awareness of the impact they may have on you. We truly appreciate your understanding and patience; and are grateful for your support as we confront this outbreak together. We will be sure to keep you informed as this situation evolves.

Please check our website for up to date information www.spearehospital.com.

Sincerely,



Michelle L. McEwen, CPA, FACHE
President/CEO