



TUBA CITY REGIONAL HEALTH CARE CORPORATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2020

TCRHCC implements restricted access to protect patients, families, visitors, health care workers amid COVID-19 spread

TUBA CITY, Ariz. — Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation (TCRHCC) is increasing preventative measures immediately to protect its patients, families, visitors and health care team by restricting access points to the hospital.

These measures are in response to the recent COVID-19, novel coronavirus case identified in Navajo County.

Patients are encouraged to stay home if they are sick and do self-care, unless they have trouble breathing and need emergent medical treatment, go to the hospital for care or call your local ambulance service

Starting March 18, 2020, TCRHCC is taking the following measure until further notice:

- 1. TCRHCC is cancelling all elective surgeries and will be rescheduled in the future. Emergency surgeries will be on a per case basis.**

We will be cancelling non-emergent and limit Same-Day appointments, until further notice.

2. **TCRHCC is not testing for COVID-19 at this time unless you are admitted into the hospital.** This is due to limited supply of test kits. If a patient's symptoms are mild, they are encouraged to stay home and self-quarantine.

If you are told to stay home and self-quarantine, please stay home, do not go into public areas. If your family also has contact with you during this time, they also should stay home and practice social distancing.

3. **As of March 18, the following is implemented: family members and visitors to TCRHCC will be screened in accordance with our restricted visitor access policy at each entry point.**

Station 1 – Screening Visitors

When you drive onto the TCRHCC campus at Main Street and East Cedar Avenue, you will expect in car screening at Station 1. All cars will be stopped at the entrance to the campus. You will be asked what your visit is for and asked if you have a fever or cough. The screening point will determine where you will park and what to do next. The screeners will help you navigate the campus.

All passengers will get a sticker. If you receive a green sticker, you will be able to access building and appointments. If you get a RED sticker you will be asked to go to the Triage Screening point at Station 2. Once you pass through the first screening checkpoint, your parking location will be provided (you will be told where to park). We have different parking lots during this time.

Station 2 – Triage Screening

Patients who have symptoms of fever or cough or have been in contact with an individual with COVID-19 will be triaged in their vehicles in the parking lot located east of the Outpatient Primary Care Center. Patients will be screened by a medical provider at Triage Screening Station 2.

Station 1 and 2 will be in operation from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., every day, as staffing allows. After 8 p.m., patients and visitors will be greeted at the main entrance of TCRHCC.

4. Pharmacy Process

If patients are picking up medications, you will be asked to park in the parking lot west of the Outpatient Primary Care Center. We are asking patients to call to see if their medications are ready, before coming to the pharmacy. Call 928-283-2754. When you arrive, a greeter from the pharmacy will come greet the patient in their vehicle and will work on getting their medication. If you have called ahead and your medications are ready, please use the pharmacy drive-thru, it will be open for medication refills that are ready for pickup.

5. Visitation Guidelines

TCRHCC has a restricted visitation rules for visitors to all inpatient units. Only one (1) person will be allowed per patient in the inpatient and outpatient clinics. Minor family members or visitors 16-years of age and younger will not be allowed in the inpatient areas. Children who are hospitalized will be able to have two parents, but no other visitors will be allowed to visit. These limits are to keep people as safe as possible.

6. Street Closure

The following streets will be closed in order to control traffic to and from the hospital. Birch Avenue/Oak Street and Main Street/E. Elm Avenue will be closed.

Medical personnel and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are allowed through Main Street/E. Elm Street.

Signs will be posted at the main entrance to direct patients, family and visitors to the designated access points.

All TCRHCC Employees are required to wear their ID badges while on campus. Employee badges will be required at each access or entry point. Employees can enter facilities at all access points equipped with card readers, if there are no card readers, you must go to the main entrance of each building.

We want to emphasize there is currently **no vaccine** to prevent COVID-19 infection. As a reminder, TCRHCC recommends actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Get a seasonal flu shot
- Wash hands frequently.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth with your upper sleeve or with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Please go to www.tchealth.org/coronavirus for more information.

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