

Sarah D. Culbertson Memorial Hospital News Release**May 20, 2020 12:00 p.m.****Contact Person:** Molly Sorrell, Director of Community Relations and Marketing
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As the level of COVID-19 infections begins to stabilize in the communities we serve, our Culbertson Clinic Providers, Surgery Team and visiting specialists are starting to reschedule appointments, surgeries, and procedures that were delayed during the pandemic. Our Culbertson Memorial Hospital and Culbertson Clinic staff have been here to care for you during this very difficult time and we are happy to start welcoming back several members of your care team.

Please know that while we are reopening these service lines, our top priority is the well-being of all our patients, visitors, and staff. We will continue to take precautions to keep everyone safe and protected from possible exposure to COVID-19 and we are confident we can provide safe, essential care.

SAFETY MEASURES

All Culbertson patients will be screened prior to entering the hospital or one of our Clinics. Patients may also be pre-screened at the time they schedule their appointment and/or during reminder calls. Onsite screenings require all patients, visitors, and staff to sanitize their hands, answer questions about potential symptoms, temperature check, and wear a mask. This process will help protect everyone from the spread of infection.

Culbertson Memorial Hospital and all Culbertson Clinics remain under a **NO VISITOR** policy. Visitors will be required to remain in their vehicle. **Limited Exceptions To This Policy Include:**

- A minor patient may have one parent or guardian.
- One visitor per patient with extenuating circumstances (such as end-of-life or trauma).
- One support person per patients with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities or cognitive impairments
- All visitors meeting one of those exceptions must be 18 years or older.

We are spacing out our patient appointments to maintain physical distance between our patient's during their visits and it allows us more time to clean the rooms and equipment in-between patients. We have also enhanced our cleaning processes and are using CDC approved products.

If you are coming to the hospital for an appointment, test or procedure you will notice that we have arranged our waiting rooms to encourage physical distancing, and if you are coming to see one of our Culbertson Clinic providers for an appointment, you will be asked to wait in your car for until your appointment.

We have installed additional hand sanitizing stations around the hospital and clinics to encourage hand hygiene for all staff, patients, and visitors.

Surgical Procedures

We have implemented several processes in addition to the measures above for ensuring you and our team are safe during your surgical procedure. All surgical patients will be required to take a COVID-19 test 72 hours prior to their scheduled procedure and quarantine at home from the time they were tested until arriving at the hospital for their procedure. While we understand the current visitor restrictions make it difficult for someone to accompany you to your procedure, we are using technology like iPads and cellular devices to help you stay in touch with your loved ones. If a surgical patient requires a support person due to their intellectual and/or developmental disabilities or cognitive impairments, the support person will also be required to undergo testing and quarantine.

If you have questions about COVID-19, are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or are concerned that you may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus, please call your primary care provider. You will be tested based on your assessment and current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations.