

Important CMH Information



Universal Symptom Screening for CMH Facilities Begins Tomorrow

During this time of uncertainty, it is now more important than ever to come together as one Central Maine Healthcare team with our CMH Service Standards guiding us. In order to provide the best care possible to our patients, community and each other, we must use our CMH standards of teamwork, honesty, accountability, serving as a role model and asking for help when needed, as our guiding principles.

We understand that there is a lot of uncertainty and our normal lives have been thrown off track, but we must remember why we all became health care team members – we are compassionate and care for those in need. We must keep those principles in mind when making decisions in the coming days. As schedules shift, duties temporarily change and life outside of CMH enters an unprecedented time, we understand you may be concerned about family, choice time and pay. However, we must be vigilant in monitoring our own health for the safety of our patients and our team members.

It has become apparent to us that in this time of stress we have sometimes forgotten how our health can impact those around us. To assist with that effort and to ensure that we can limit the exposure of COVID-19 within our own facilities, we will be implementing screening of anyone who enters our buildings, whether they are patients or team members.

Beginning tomorrow, we will start screening every team member who enters any hospital, practice or clinic facility. The screening will include a temperature check and questions regarding current symptoms and recent exposure to a person with known or being tested for COVID-19 while not wearing personal protective equipment. The screening will work as follows:

Criteria

1. Temperature > 100.4°F or 38.0°C
2. Any respiratory symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, cough, difficulty breathing, chest pain)
3. Any exposure to a person being tested for or with known COVID-19 while not wearing personal protective equipment

IF 2 OR 3, TEAM MEMBER SENT TO ED

If the team member meets two or more of the above criteria, they **MUST immediately put on a mask** and go directly to the ED for COVID-19 testing.

IF NONE, PROCEED TO WORK

If the team member has none of the above criteria, they can go directly to their department for work.

IF FEVER PRESENT, TEAM MEMBER SENT HOME

If the team member only has a fever but answers no to the questions, they MUST go home. Their name will be reported to Occupational Health and their Supervisor.

IF RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS PRESENT, TEAM MEMBER MASKS AND PROCEEDS TO WORK

If the team member has any respiratory symptoms, they MUST immediately put on a mask and go directly to their department for work. Their name will be reported to Occupational Health and their Supervisor.

IF EXPOSED TO COVID-19 WHILE NOT WEARING PPE, TEAM MEMBER MASKS AND IS MONITORED

If the team member was not wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) when they were exposed to a person known to have COVID-19 or to a person who is awaiting COVID-19 test results, they MUST immediately put on a mask and go directly to their department for work. Their name will be reported to Occupational Health and their Supervisor. In addition, they will have their temperature retested during their work hours.

If you have concerns regarding the screening, please speak with your manager or team leader.

The health and safety of our patients, community and you is not something we take lightly, and those who are knowingly putting others at risk will face consequences for their actions. We must band together and do what is best for everyone around us while we weather this storm. This too will pass, and we have no doubt we will come out as a stronger Central Maine Healthcare team and organization.

Your time and dedication to CMH and its patients does not go unnoticed, and we thank each and every one of you for your ongoing efforts. Thank you for all that you do; we appreciate you.

Stay well.

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