

Important CMH Information



Incident Command Update – April 5, 2022

To CMH team members from Incident Commander John Alexander, MD, MHCM, FACEP, Chief Medical Officer

TODAY'S CENSUS: CMMC 113; Bridgton Hospital 18; Rumford Hospital 14

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT HOLDS: CMMC 10; Bridgton Hospital 0; Rumford Hospital 0

COVID-19 PATIENTS: CMMC 3; Bridgton Hospital 1; Rumford Hospital 1

CMMC TRANSFER WAITLIST: 2

HOSPITAL SERVICES CURRENTLY IMPACTED: Inpatient Pediatrics; Special Care Nursery; Weekend Stress Echo; CMMC Lab Outpatient Services (CMHO campus) open Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. -3:30 p.m., closed Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays; Outpatient Lab at 12 High St., closing earlier, at 4:30 p.m., on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

RETURN TO WORK STRATEGY: Contingency

TODAY'S UPDATE

1. INFECTION PREVENTION UPDATE: Numbers are generally going down but we had a bit of an increase this week.

Fourteen team members are out due to COVID and nine are out sick and awaiting test results. Test results are pending for two team members exposed at parties and one who was exposed to a patient who tested positive after 72 hours as an inpatient. Two others were sent home after being exposed to a symptomatic, unmasked patient. Two Maine College of Health Professions students are out.

We still need to adhere to our infection prevention measures. Federal guidelines remain unchanged for healthcare facilities and healthcare workers. Patients need to mask around team members. Team members need to wear eye protection around patients. If you are sick, you should not come to work.

In all CMH facilities, team members still need to adhere to:

- Universal masking;
- Eye protection when in contact with a patient or visitor;
- Daily screening survey and reporting any signs/symptoms of COVID-19 infection to Occupational Health;
- Maintaining spatial separation, as appropriate; and
- Requiring patients to mask when a team member is providing care or in their vicinity.

As always, routine and frequent hand hygiene in the healthcare setting remains an expectation as does the restriction on eating in patient care areas. Drinks are allowed only in designated hydration stations and must be covered.

We continue to monitor current CDC guidance and rates related to community transmission and prevalence. When circumstances allow their modification, we will provide updates on PPE requirements and other pandemic-related policies.

2. INFECTION PREVENTION FOR PATIENTS, VISITORS AND ESCORTS: Adherence to infection prevention protocols continues to be an issue. The stricter standards for healthcare settings apply not only to team members but to patients, visitors and escorts as well.

Patients, visitors and escorts are required to wear a mask at all times in our practices, hospitals and Urgent Care locations. Our visitor and escort policy continues to also require screening, hand sanitizing, not consuming food or drinks inside the facilities (including in patient rooms) and other infection prevention precautions. For additional details, please review our [requirements for visitors and escorts](#). We will reinforce these requirements to them.

3. BOOSTER SHOT: We are developing a plan to offer second doses to team members at all three hospitals. Stay tuned for more information.

A second booster of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) is available to those 50 and older, and those 12 and older with certain immunocompromising conditions, if it has been at least four months since the first booster dose. [More information about second boosters is available from the U.S. CDC.](#)

4. UPDATE ON VISITOR GUIDELINES: We are allowing children who are at least 5 years old and are accompanied by an adult to visit patients in end-of-life care. Escorts are allowed in perioperative areas.

5. NEGATIVE PRESSURE ROOMS: We are assessing how many rooms in the system can be converted back from negative pressure so that exhaust fans, tubing and other components can be removed.

6. COU BEDS: Three beds near Radiology are opening up to help with the paracentesis backlog.

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