



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 20, 2020

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Southwest Health System (SHS) Restricts Visitor Access

Cortez, CO- In an effort to preserve precious resources, protect patients and employees and to continue providing quality care to our community the following changes will be implemented starting Monday March 23, 2020:

No visitors will be permitted to visit patients in any area of the hospital. Patients in our Family Birthing Center and patients who are minor children are exempt from this change. Patients who are being seen in the Family Birthing Center or minor children will be allowed 1 consistent and designated visitor. The appointed visitor must be in good health and may be asked to undergo temperature monitoring or to wear personal protective equipment. Patients being seeing in the Medical Office Building will not be permitted an accompanying quest with them to their appointments. The only exception will be minor children who require a parent or guardian at their appointment. Only 1 designated parent or guardian can accompany them, they must also be in good health and may be subject to temperature screening.

The main hospital entrance will be closed 24 hours a day. The only entrance to hospital will be the Emergency Room entrance.

The Medical Office Building will only be open Monday – Friday from 7:30am-5pm

Patients who are being seen for symptoms consistent with COVID19 (cough, fever, body aches and chills) will be separated from other patients in both the ER and Inpatient units.

The laboratory draw station located at 111 N. Park Street, Cortez CO will be open 7am-5pm Monday – Friday. The draw station will be utilized for healthy patients who are showing no symptoms of COVID19 or Influenza.

About Southwest Health System

Southwest Health System operates Southwest Memorial Hospital, a critical access hospital, Southwest Medical Group comprised of 6 clinics providing primary and specialty care services, and Southwest Health System Retail Pharmacy. SHS provides over 50 service lines to the community. SHS is a private, not-for-profit corporation operating under all guidelines and regulations for non-profits and is also governed by a volunteer board. For more information, visit www.swhealth.org.

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