



3/13/2020

Updated Media Statement: Carson Tahoe updates screening processes, limits visitation during the Coronavirus outbreak

When there is heightened concern around an illness, Carson Tahoe closely monitors the situation and implements enhanced infection prevention strategies, working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state and local health districts, and other local healthcare providers. In response to the recent declaration of a 'National State of Emergency' surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak, and in following the CDC's recommendations for social distancing, we have decided to take additional precautionary measures to reduce the risk of contracting/spreading seasonal illnesses.

As we work to focus care on our patients and lessen the complexity of the situation, Carson Tahoe has implemented the following measures (in addition to previously established measures):

Controlled Access & Patient/Visitor Triage:

The main entrance and emergency room entrance at the Regional Medical Center will be the only way for the public to enter the facility. The Regional Medical Center main entrance will be open from 6:00am to 6:00pm. Before 6:00am or after 6:00pm all public access is through the main emergency department entrance. Additionally, we are screening everyone for fever, cough, or signs of respiratory illness upon entry to our locations. If signs of a respiratory illness are detected, the patient will immediately be presented a mask, isolated, and screened for COVID-19.

Limiting Visitation:

To help protect against flu and other respiratory illness, we are encouraging community members to not visit patients at any Carson Tahoe location. If you have a cough, fever, sore throat, body aches, gastrointestinal and/or respiratory symptoms, do not visit patients in the hospital.

- Please no visitors age 12 and under
- New routine visiting hours for inpatient services are now 2 – 6 pm
 - Limited to one visitor per patient (please no large groups or families)
 - Exceptions will be made for patient's in critical condition, at the discretion of the caregiver
- No visitor can accompany emergency room patients back to the care area other than companions who are essential to the care of the patient regarding knowledge of the patient's condition, medical history, and social support
- The number of visitors for our patients in our Women's and Children's Units will be restricted



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Access To Care

Please stay home if you're feeling sick and we encourage you to self-quarantine. If you feel you need medical attention for respiratory illness/cough/fever, please call the Carson City Health & Human Services COVID-19 hotline (775) 283-4789 to determine if you need to seek further medical care.

Canceled Events/Classes:

- At this time, all Carson Tahoe Cancer Center classes and support groups are canceled through March 31st
- The RN recruitment fair scheduled for March 20 has been canceled

Since this is an ongoing situation, we will keep you informed as things change. Please Visit carsontahoe.com to stay updated with the latest proactive measures taken by Carson Tahoe.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this time as we do all we can to ensure the safety and well-being of our patients, staff, and community.

3/9/2020

Media Statement: Carson Tahoe puts temporary processes in place during the Coronavirus outbreak

When there is heightened concern around an illness, Carson Tahoe closely monitors the situation and implements enhanced infection prevention strategies, working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state and local health districts, and other local healthcare providers. Coronavirus, the virus that is causing all the media attention causes an illness called COVID-19. Though the risk is still very low for contracting Coronavirus, Carson Tahoe is following the CDC recommendations by being proactive in their efforts to prevent COVID-19.

At this time, in an abundance of caution, we, like several other healthcare organizations, have implemented the following measures:

Controlled Access:

The main entrance and emergency room entrance at the Regional Medical Center will be the only way for the public to enter the facility. The Regional Medical Center main entrance will be open from 6:00am to 6:00pm. Before 6:00am or after 6:00pm all public access is through the main emergency department entrance.

Volunteers:

To reduce risk to themselves and others, we are temporarily suspending volunteer operations.



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Patient/Visitor Triage:

We have implemented a welcome triage area at the front entrance and the ED main entrance, staffed with nurses, to screen everyone entering the building. If signs of a respiratory illness are detected, the patient will immediately be presented a mask, isolated, and screened for COVID-19.

Limiting Visitation:

To help protect against flu and other respiratory illness, we are encouraging community members to not visit patients at any Carson Tahoe location. If you have a cough, fever, sore throat, body aches, gastrointestinal and/or respiratory symptoms, do not visit patients in the hospital.

Protecting yourself:

You can protect yourself the same way you would protect against other viruses with a few common-sense practices.

- **PLEASE Stay home when you are sick**
 - If you have fever, cough, gastrointestinal, or respiratory symptoms please call the Nurse Health Line at (775) 445-8100.
- Wash your hands thoroughly and often. Make sure you are cleaning between your fingers and under your nails.
- Avoid shaking hands, especially with those who appear to be ill.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth as much as possible.
- Disinfect shared surfaces.
- Practice social distancing.

Since this is an ongoing situation, we will keep you informed as things change. Please Visit carsontahoe.com to stay updated with the latest proactive measures taken by Carson Tahoe.