

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

UNIFIED COMMAND

TONHC COVID-19 UPDATES

Thursday, March 19, 2020

COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) is a new disease that is causing an outbreak around the world. Hospitals and clinics across the United States are making changes to care for patients who have COVID-19. The United States of America and the Tohono O'odham Nation have declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19. The following changes are being made to ensure public safety and wellbeing.

Non-urgent Services

Beginning Friday March 20, 2020 TONHC will suspend non-urgent appointments. Routine appointments will not be available until further notice. Some services may not be available at all clinical sites as we mobilize resources and staff to Sells Hospital to support the Inpatient Unit, Emergency Department, and Urgent Same Day Services.

Emergency Services

TONHC will continue to provide Emergency Services. If you believe you have a medical emergency, please call 911.

Primary Care

TONHC will continue to address routine needs via telephone calls. If you have a routine medical need, such as medication refills or referrals, please contact your primary care team. If you do not know the phone number of your primary care team, please call the operator at your care facility.

For Sells Hospital call 520-383-7200

For San Xavier Clinic call 520-295-2550

For San Simon Clinic call 520-682-7078

For Santa Rosa Clinic call 520-361-2403

Same Day Care

If you have a mild illness and believe you may need medical attention, please contact your healthcare center. A medical provider or nurse will speak with you and help come up with a plan of care. The plan of care may include a Same Day appointment or a telephone visit.

Dental

TONHC Dental Clinics will continue urgent (walk-in) or emergency services. Routine appointments will be suspended until further notice.

First Check

All persons coming to the hospital and clinics will get a First Check prior to entering the hospital or clinics. To limit spread of infection, there will only be one or two open entrances to each facility. We will have outdoor clinics in tents for medical evaluation of patients who are sick. We will ask everyone, including employees, about possible COVID-19 symptoms: In the last 3 days, have you had fever, cough, or difficulty breathing?

First Check is not a laboratory test for COVID-19. Laboratory testing for COVID-19 is recommended for patients who have severe illness or are hospitalized. Most people with COVID-19 will have mild symptoms and will not require a COVID-19 test.

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Ambulance

In order to decrease risk of exposure the ambulance will no longer allow a second rider to ride along in the ambulance. Exceptions will be for a patient in labor, a child, or any patient who has physical or mental problem and requires a responsible care giver to be present.

Pharmacy

Medication refills will be now distributed in a 90 day supply at all sites for most medications. Sells Hospital Pharmacy will no longer be able to provide 24 hour medication pick up. The hours for Sells Hospital Pharmacy medication pick up will be 7:00 am to 7:00 pm beginning March 20, 2020.

Services Available by Phone

The following services will continue to be available by phone: Nutrition, Diabetes Education, Social Work Services, Purchased Referred Care (referrals), Patient Benefits Coordinators, Case Management, Primary Care Teams, and Pharmacy

Visitor Policy to Hospital and Clinics

In order to decrease risk of exposure to individuals, only those persons with a scheduled urgent appointment or an emergency will be allowed into the clinics and hospital. Family members or companions will be asked to wait outside in their vehicle, exceptions are children or those patients who require a caregiver to be present with them.

Visitation of patients on the Inpatient Unit will be limited to one visitor per day, only persons over the age of 15 are allowed. Inpatient visiting hours are 11:00 am - 7:00 pm.

Cafeteria

The Sells Hospital Cafeteria is closed to the public until further notice.

Please remember that none of us is facing COVID-19 alone. We will make it through this difficult time together. TONHC is here to support and serve.

COVID-19 Prevention Tips:

1. Wash your hands with soap and water, OR use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.
2. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with dirty hands or objects.
3. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
4. Avoid large crowds, stay 6 feet away from other people, and stay home when possible.
5. Wipe down high touch surfaces in your home with disinfectant cleaner.

