CONCORD HOSPITAL
Your Regional Health Resource

UPDATED
March 20 2020
COVID-19

- **In addition to elective surgeries being suspended, at this time only high priority oncology and emergency surgeries are being performed in Concord Hospital's Operating Rooms** through the end of March at which time the organization will reevaluate.

- **Concord Hospital Medical Group has established an additional evaluation and testing location for COVID-19.** Patients should call their provider where a clinician will ask questions about travel and symptoms to determine the need for further evaluation and testing. Should testing be appropriate, an appointment will be made at one of two testing sites.

- **The community testing sites served 234 people this week in total, providing testing to 117.**

- **Concord Hospital Medical Group practices have suspended regular office visits and instead are conducting telemedicine phone visits.** As of March 20, 2020, there had been nearly 1,100 telephone visits completed and an additional 1,200 scheduled.

- **The Concord Hospital health system has ordered COVID-19 testing for processing for approximately 160 patients.**

- **To date, the Hospital has received results for 26 patients, which were all negative.**

- **There are currently seven hospitalized patients who we are awaiting test results for; all are in stable condition.**

- **Though a positive case has been reported in the Concord area, that test was not conducted at the Hospital or any of its testing sites.**

- **Concord Hospital is urgently requesting new N-95 masks and sanitizer.** Community members may deliver their contributions of masks and sanitizer to the Visitor Entrance on the Hospital campus daily from 5:30 am to 8:00 pm.

- **At this time, Concord Hospital is restricting visitor and patient access to the Cafeteria, Gift Shop and Karner Blue Cafe.**

It Takes Everyone to Prepare for COVID-19

When rooms in a healthcare environment are not properly pressurized (negative or positive), airborne contaminants can escape putting the health of patients, staff, and visitors at risk. A negative pressure room in a hospital is used to contain airborne contaminants within the room. Isolation rooms are negatively pressurized with respect to adjacent areas to prevent airborne contaminants from drifting to other areas and contaminating patients, staff and sterile equipment.

The negative pressure environment is used to protect others from patients being nursed in isolation rooms because they have a very contagious disease (e.g. TB). The air exiting a negative isolation room should be filtered with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter to remove viruses and bacteria.

Concord Hospital has more than 40 permanent negative pressure isolation rooms. In preparing for a possible surge of patients requiring isolation, we have temporarily added an additional 36 negative pressure rooms.

Work required to convert a room to negative pressure varies depending upon the HVAC system and the use of the room. A majority of the work done to create the new temporary isolation rooms involved removing windows to install a HEPA filtration air machine which vents directly outside. Essentially, the air in the

patient room needs to pull from the adjacent space (typically an anteroom or hall), travel through a HEPA filter to remove virus and bacteria and then be dispersed into the air outside. Facilities Plant Operations staff ensure that the proper air flow is being delivered to and from the room. Facilities Carpenters have fabricated temporary panels with vents to replace the window. Additionally, in some cases an ante room had to be built and doors installed to help further isolate the patient room from the interior spaces of the unit.

Area in preparation

Equipment to create a Negative Pressure Room

Making
a **difference**
& in **lives**
every day.

Thanks very much to Concord Girl Scout Troop 20507.
The girls donated 168 boxes of Girl Scout cookies for Hospital employees. Nothing like Samoas, Tagalongs and, of course, Thin Mints, to help us make through trying times. Just what the doctor ordered!