

EOP Message

July 1, 2020

PPE

Due to continued increases in patients under COVID-19 precautions in facilities and in the hospital setting, **goggles and a N95 mask are now required within 6 feet of patient or family in the hospital and facilities.**

A medical mask and goggles are required for care provided within 6 feet of a patient or family in a patient's home. A face shield may be used as well, but **goggles and medical mask are required.** PPE per orders is to be used on all COVID-19 and PUI patients.

Daily Health Screening

You are required to screen yourself for COVID-19 symptoms every day. You should be receiving a daily Avow email to screen for COVID-19 symptoms. You must complete the screening tool as your first task in your work day. If you do not receive an email for some reason, you are still responsible to screen for symptoms of COVID-19, which include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. If you have a symptom listed above, you cannot work outside of your home unless cleared by Employee Health. **Stay home if you are sick.** Do not report to work or see patients if you are feeling unwell.

New Testing Rule

Recently, the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) released a Rule requiring all long term care staff to be tested for COVID-19 every 14 days. In the rule, hospice providers going into a long term care facility are considered staff of the facility. Therefore, all staff members going into any long term care facility are mandated by AHCA to be tested for COVID-19 every 14 days and to provide

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those test results to the facility on the day they are obtained. The Rule goes into effect on July 7th. Avow is holding COVID-19 testing sooner than every two weeks and our clinical staff will be able to use their test results in gaining entrance to facilities. Staff are required to provide their test results directly to the facility. Avow cannot release these results for you. It is very important that you retain a physical copy of your test as you are required to provide a physical copy of the test results to any long-term care facility you enter effective July 7th.

Avow COVID-19 Testing Schedule

Avow will be conducting mandatory testing for all clinical staff including anyone who provides direct patient care, nurses, social workers, physicians, home health aides, all direct clinical support such as clinical administrative assistants, all Facilities team members, and anyone working in Georgeson Hospice House. Individuals who come on campus but do not directly work with clinical staff will not be tested by Avow at this time.

- Monday - 07/06 (6:00am-11:00am)
- Tuesday - 07/07 (2:00pm-7:00pm)
- Thursday – 07/16 (6:00am-11:00am)
- Friday - 07/17 (2:00pm-7:00pm)
- Sunday – 07/26 (6:00am-11:00am)
- Monday – 07/27 (2:00pm-7:00pm)
- Wednesday – 08/05 (6:00am-11:00am)
- Thursday – 08/06 (2:00pm-7:00pm)
- Friday – 08/14 (6:00am-11:00am) Saturday – 08/15 (2:00pm-7:00pm)

Test results will be emailed by Advanced Medical directly to the person receiving the test at their Avow email address. Individuals being tested will also be asked to sign a release allowing test results to come to the Employee Health Department. Should you have difficulty obtaining results from Advanced Medical,

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the Employee Health Department will be able to provide you with results, after you complete a release of records form.

Lunch On Campus

Staff working on campus must request lunch with an email or phone call to Irene Cunningham (Smith Center) or Sue Aceto (Lyon Center) by 9am daily to be included in the daily count. Standard or vegetarian options are available. Lunches are delivered to Smith break room and Lyon lobby at 12:30pm daily for your retrieval.