



# MESA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

*Working Together for a Healthy Community*

## NEWS RELEASE

**Date: March 21 2020**

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### **HOSPITALS IMPLEMENT ADDITIONAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

In coordination with Mesa County Public Health (MCPH), effective Monday, March 23, 2020 at 12:00 pm, area hospitals are implementing additional visitor restrictions in response to COVID-19

Out of an abundance of caution SCL Health St. Mary's Hospital, Community Hospital, Colorado Canyons Hospital and Medical Center, and VA Western Colorado Health Care System are taking this safety precaution.

One personal caregiver per patient per visit will be allowed for the following patients:

- Labor & Delivery
- Surgery and procedural
  - Cancer Center and Oncology
  - Emergency Department
  - End of Life
  - Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Intensive Care Unit
- Discharged patients to receive discharge instructions
- Dementia and other patients requiring one-on-one oversight

Your Grand Valley Hospitals would like the citizens to know that your hospital caregivers train continually to prepare for emergencies. They are coordinated and collaborating to help ensure our community is able to provide the greatest support possible for the safety of our citizens. They offer the following joint statement:

We understand that you may be going through healthcare and personal challenges right now. We want you to know that we are prepared to care for the communities we serve and we are collaborating to help ensure the resources necessary for the care of our patients are available. We take very seriously our responsibility for the safety of you and your loved ones, for our patients, and for our associates. It is out of that abundance of caution that we are now implementing these additional visitor restrictions. This is a joint hospital response to support the highest level of care to the COVID-19 challenge facing our nation. Know that we have taken great consideration to make appropriate accommodations for exceptions to this restriction for those patients that must have a caregiver present in the hospital with them. We don't want anyone to be alone during



their care. We thank everyone for their efforts to cooperate with medical providers during this time of Call-to-Support the collective interests of our community, our region and our nation.

“We know the impacts of COVID-19 are being felt by every resident of Mesa County,” MCPH Executive Director, Jeff Kuhr says. “We are working collaboratively with our healthcare partners to ensure the local hospital infrastructure remains strong; protecting healthcare workers and ensuring these facilities have the capacity to help our community through this unprecedented time.”

Area hospitals encourage those who want to check on a current patient to reach out to the patient electronically via cellphone, email, or social media.

Please visit Mesa County Public Health's community resource webpage for current, reliable information on COVID-19: <https://health.mesacounty.us/covid19/>