

*November 6, 2018***NEWS RELEASE***Media Contact: Karen Martsolf, MA
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karen.martsolf@gjhosp.org***Community Hospital to Conduct Decontamination Exercise**

Mesa County, CO - Community Hospital will conduct a full-scale emergency preparedness exercise on **Wednesday, November 7, 2018**, from 9:00am - 11:00am on the south side of the hospital near the emergency department entrance. The hospital is located at 2351 G Road, just west of Canyon View Park. The exercise will begin promptly at 9:00am with a mock call to 911 dispatch prefacing "THIS IS A DRILL".

The decontamination exercise is a full-scale, functional exercise, designed to test medical surgical capabilities at Community Hospital. "These types of emergency preparedness drills are designed to establish a safe learning environment for participants to exercise emergency response plans, policies, and procedures," said Carolle Anne Banville, ND, DNP, PhD, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Nursing Officer for Community Hospital. "This particular exercise will test our emergency department triage capabilities as they pertain to external chemical threats," added Banville.

The main areas of focus for this exercise will include prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery. Participants will include actors from Community Hospital's Nurse Residency Program, simulators calling in as concerned citizens and media, evaluators, observers and support staff.

Members of the media are welcome and encouraged to cover this full-scale hazmat training exercise. Community Hospital will set up a large hazmat tent onsite as well as a media staging area for members of the media who wish to obtain video footage. Media wishing to participate should arrive at 9:30am and check-in at the media staging area and request to speak to the Public Information Officer.

For more information on the programs and services provided by Community Hospital, please visit YourCommunityHospital.com or call 970-242-0920.

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