

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Salina Regional modifies visitation guidelines due to increasing COVID-19 cases

(August 3, 2021) – Salina Regional Health Center is modifying its COVID-19 visitor guidelines due to increasing numbers of COVID-19 infection in the community. As of this morning SRHC had 23 inpatients admitted with COVID-19. The Saline County Health Department's most recent report also noted 299 active COVID-19 cases in the community.

Effective today, August 3, all hospital outpatients and Salina SRHC-affiliated clinic patients will only be allowed to have one visitor/assistant accompany them for their appointments. This includes Emergency Department patients and outpatients with appointments for surgery, lab, radiology, physical therapy, and other services and doctor's visits. Pediatric patients will continue to be allowed to have both parents/guardians accompany them for their appointments. Hospital outpatients and clinic patients had previously been allowed to have two visitors/assistants accompany them for appointments.

"We are constantly monitoring COVID-19 infection rates in the community and will continue to modify our visitation rules following guidelines set forth by the CDC and KDHE for health care providers," said Bethanie McDowell, infection prevention director at SRHC. "Additional changes to our policies may be needed in the near future."

At this time hospital inpatients are still allowed two visitors at a time.

• Inpatient visitors may only enter the hospital Main Entrance between the hours of 5 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on weekdays, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

- Visitors are not allowed to access the main hospital through the Emergency Department entrance at any time.
- Visitors are welcome to stay as long as they like within routine hospital visiting hours.
- Visitors will be screened for COVID-19 risk and given an ID bracelet upon entry.
- Visitors must be age 18 or older.
- Visitors will be asked to wear a mask throughout the visit including in hallways, public areas and the patient's room.
- Visitors should remain in the patient's room as much as possible.
- NO VISITORS are permitted for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

Current visitation guidelines can be found at www.srhc.com.

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