Coronavirus FAQ

Does the hospital report suspected and/or confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Boulder City Hospital (BCH) reports to Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) on patients who present with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 so that SNHD can track the test results of those patients. The hospital does not share any private health information with the public except as mandated for public health purposes.

BCH staff does ask that local patients who may have an infectious disease inform Boulder City Fire and Police of their address, so that in the event they need to call 911, our local first responders will know that they need to put on protective equipment before entering the residence.

Does the hospital provide masks to the public?

BCH does not and cannot provide masks or other personal protective equipment or supplies to the public. All hospitals are in short supply of this equipment and must keep inventory on hand to keep hospital staff safe while treating patients. The CDC does not recommend facemasks for those who are not sick unless they are caring for someone who is sick that is not able to wear a facemask.

Is the hospital equipped to admit patients with COVID-19?

Yes. The hospital has two isolation rooms. One in the ER for examination and one in the medical/surgical unit of the hospital.

Can the hospital accommodate critically sick patients?

Boulder City Hospital is a Critical Access Hospital (CAH). As a CAH, there are restrictions that limit the number of days we can keep an acute patient. BCH does not have any ICU beds and therefore, would transfer critical care patients to a hospital in Clark County with available ICU beds.

What should I do if I think I have COVID-19 symptoms?

First, self-isolate to avoid infecting others. If you feel you need medical intervention but it's not an emergency, call your doctor for advice or direction. If you feel your symptoms rise to the level of an emergency, call the BCH ER ahead of time if possible so that ER staff can prepare for your visit and protect themselves and others ahead of time.

Are any hospital services being eliminated during the coronavirus pandemic?

Currently all hospital services are available. Outpatient therapy appointments for patients who typically come in for chronic issues/general strength/balance programs will be placed on hold.

How can I get tested for coronavirus?

If you are experiencing the symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., fever ≥ 100 F, cough, shortness of breath), please call your Primary Care Provider for advice. We are asking that you not come to the Emergency Room as a first choice unless you are severely ill.

Can I get tested at Boulder City Hospital?

If you are seen by our Emergency Department Physicians and they decide that you have been exposed to and are showing symptoms of COVID-19, they will order the testing. It is currently taking 3-4 days for the results to be returned.

What is the hospital doing to protect staff?

We are in the process of arranging for some employees to work at home. This would affect non-patient care staff such as business office personnel and other administrative, IT and clerical positions. We are also setting up Boulder City Primary Care Clinic for telehealth visits. We anticipate that we will be able to accommodate some telehealth visits by March 27th.

Other information

State and Federal regulators have temporarily waived regulations that affect patient access to Critical Access Hospitals:

- Patients can be directly admitted to a sub-acute (swing) bed without having to be in an acute care bed for three days prior.
- CAHs can keep an acute patient longer than 96 hours if medically necessary.
- CAHs can admit patients above and beyond the previous maximum of 25 patients.

Boulder City Hospital has added an additional 10-beds should there be a need to hospitalize a higher number of patients.