COVID-19 UPDATE

Due to the increase in COVID cases in Sitka, the following inpatient visitor guidelines is effective immediately at Mt. Edgecumbe Medical Center:

**Inpatient Visitors:**
- Visiting hours are 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. daily (for arrival)
- Visitor is only allowed in specific situations
  - End of life care
  - Patient is a minor
  - Other situations hat hospital administration, on-call, and nursing have deemed it is in the best interest of the patient to have an approved visitor.
- Shift supervisor (SS) will make note of visitor on the VISITOR LIST that is given to the screening table and Communications daily (hand delivered or emailed)
- If it is an escort that is arriving for care training, the care team or primary RN will notify the shift supervisor of the visitor.
- The visitors will need an initial COVID test.
- The visitor will need to follow all CDC measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19:
  - Hand hygiene frequently
  - Masking the entire visit
  - Social distancing when possible
  - Visitors should minimize entering and exiting the building
- SEARHC/MEMC encourages visitors to vaccinate if able
- If the visitor screens positive they may not enter MEMC.
- Designated visitors should be provided an informational handout.

**Emergency Department (ED) Visitors:**
- Allowing visitors in ED should be a team decision (provider, nursing, patient) due to the high-risk environment.
- Unless a provider or nursing deem it not in the best interest of the patient, a designated visitor will be allowed as specified in the Inpatient Visitor section.
  - The hours will vary due to the nature of the ED
  - They should not go on the VISITOR LIST

**L & D**
- Significant others and doulas will be tested initially and screened daily.

**End of Life**
- A designated family member will give a list of expected visitor names to the shift supervisor
  - The designated family member will relay the guidelines of two visitors at a time to the rest of the visitors on the list.
  - The length of stay in the room will be determined by the number of visitors within the visiting hours of 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (for arrival)
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Documentation of Visitors:

- The list of visitors correlating with the patient room number, patient name and each visitor’s name will be given to the screening table each morning by the nightshift shift supervisor (this list will not have diagnoses listed). This list will also be emailed to the “visitor log” email group.
- Testing is required initially only.
- Daily screening is necessary
  - If a visitor screens positive they will not be able to enter MEMC as a visitor.