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## Labette Health Plans for Phased Resumption of Services



PARSONS, KANSAS – For your protection, Labette Health will begin a phased approach to safely resume services that will allow physicians and providers to address patients’ current and ongoing medical needs. The resumption of services is as follows:

- May 5: Elective, non-urgent procedures/surgeries
- May 5: Physician and provider visits within all clinics
- May 5: Non-urgent medical, diagnostic radiology and laboratory services
- May 11: Screening colonoscopies
- May 18: Inpatient surgical procedures

“For your protection, we are taking a phased and deliberate approach to safely allow medical services to resume,” said Brian Williams, President & CEO. “Elective procedures and diagnostic testing are important to the patient’s health and we’re working responsibly to get these patients the care they need first.”

Labette Health’s Surgery Committee and the Medical Executive Committee of the Labette Health Medical Staff has considered all relevant guidelines from the American College of Surgeons, American Society of Anesthesiologists, Association of perioperative Registered Nurses, and the American Hospital Association’s Joint Statement: Roadmap for Resuming Elective Surgery after COVID-19 Pandemic.

“As always, a quality outcome and patient safety are our first priority,” said Dr. Philip Gorman, Chief of Staff. “Regardless of status of any state or local stay-at-home order, please continue to minimize your risk of COVID-19 or other infections before or after surgery. The best way to minimize this risk related to COVID-19 is to practice good social distancing activities and practicing good hand-washing techniques.”

For the protection and safety of patients, visitors and staff, Labette Health has implemented many safety precautions and universal protections:

### Patient Care & Safety at All Locations

- Patients are expected to wear their own mask. Patients who do not have a mask will be given one to wear.
- Patients will be screened upon entry to each location.
- Patients experiencing COVID-19 symptoms will be referred to the Parsons Fever Clinic, Independence Fever Clinic or for a Telehealth visit.

### Visitor Safety in Clinics

- One Visitor per patient.
- Visitors will be screened upon entry to each location.
- Visitors who are sick will not be allowed into clinics.
- Visitors are expected to wear their own mask.
- Visitors must wash their hands or use sanitizer before and after entering clinical areas and waiting rooms.

### **Visitor Safety in Hospital**

- Visitors will be screened upon entry.
- Visitors must wear a mask at all times.
- One visitor per patient.
- End-of-life circumstances: patient's care team will discuss with their family for additional visitors.
- Suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients will not be allowed visitors.

### **Surgical Patient Safety**

- Patients will be tested for COVID-19 the day prior to their procedure.
- Patients will be asked to continue self-quarantine at home prior to surgery.
- Patients will be asked to self-check COVID-19 symptoms daily.
- Patients will enter in the back surgery entrance behind the main hospital.

### **Surgery Visitor Safety**

- Some visitors may be asked to wait in the vehicle and will be communicated via phone by surgeon and/or nurse. Curbside discharge instructions will be given when appropriate to reduce the number of persons entering hospital.
- One visitor per patient allowed.
- Visitor will enter the rear surgery entrance, will be screened and asked to sit in the patient's room (not public waiting areas).
- Special circumstances will be made for pediatric patients (17 and under), elderly, special needs, weather conditions or other special circumstances.
- Visitors must wear a mask at all times.

### **Therapy Patients**

- Patients will continue entering through the main entrance at The CORE.
- Patients will be screened upon entry.
- One visitor per patient.
- Visitors will be screened and expected to wear their own mask.
- Accommodations will be made for pediatric patients (17 and under) and other patients requiring special assistance.
- Patients who are ill or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms will be given alternative care options.
- Visitors who are ill or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to leave the facility.
- Fitness center and pool will remain closed to the public.

### **Home Care Patients**

- Patients/caregivers will be screened via telephone prior to each visit.
- Patient's temperature, and caregiver's, will be taken upon staff's arrival.

### **Facility & Environmental Safety**

- Waiting areas are arranged for social distancing.
- Clinics will stagger scheduled appointments.
- When necessary, patients may be asked to remain in their vehicle for their appointment.
- Controlled access entries to our hospital and clinics.
- **All Labette Health Clinics are designated NON-COVID Care areas, with the exception of Parsons Fever Clinic, Independence Fever Clinic, Parsons Emergency Room and Independence Emergency Room.**
- Infection prevention protocols: Daily intensive sanitizing and housekeeping measures throughout all Labette Health facilities and after each patient visit.

### **Healthcare Worker Safety**

- All staff are screened at the beginning of their work shift.
- All staff must wear masks at all times.
- Sufficient resources of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are available to all staff and are worn according to protocols of patient care.

**About Labette Health**

Labette Health, serving a six-county area since 1961, is a 99 bed licensed hospital that provides acute, intensive and inpatient rehabilitation services. Labette Health serves southeast Kansas with clinics in Altamont, Chanute, Cherryvale, Coffeyville, Erie, Independence, Oswego and St. Paul, including an emergency department at the Independence Healthcare Center and four express care locations - Parsons, Chanute, Independence and Oswego. Labette Health, renowned for its comprehensive healthcare services, state-of-the-art technology and skilled medical staff, has earned national recognition for patient safety. Labette Health, rated a 5-Star hospital by CMS, has earned numerous quality awards by CareChex, including ranking in the top 10 percent of hospitals nationwide for patient safety and medical excellence, as well as Top 100 Hospital for Joint Replacement. Labette Health is also nationally recognized by Healthgrades for Total Knee Replacement, recognized by Women's Choice Award for Emergency Care and Patient Safety and by Blue Cross as a Blue Distinction Center+ for Knee & Hip Replacement. For more information, visit [labettehealth.com](http://labettehealth.com) or [facebook.com/LabetteHealth](https://facebook.com/LabetteHealth).