

Coronavirus Update #5

Things are running smoothly at the Wellness Center. We have tested approximately 26 patients for Covid-19, all results we have gotten back (3) have come back negative so far. It appears the turnaround time is slightly longer than originally anticipated, instead of the 3-4 day it seems to be taking more like 4-6. We do expect to see that time shorten as tests are being developed that will require a shorter time to result, we continue to press our suppliers to get us reagents so that we can perform the test here in our lab, although can't promise that will ever happen, we are trying.

As a reminder we only test symptomatic patients that are negative to all other tests that will be performed 1st. Test kits still remain limited, although we currently have about 60-70 and are receiving more daily, therefore we must reserve them for symptomatic patients until the time comes when test kits are plentiful or reagents become available so we can perform the test here.

We will continue to screen patients out front on the covered patio area until further notice, and when arriving please keep social distancing in mind and do not crowd around the Medical Assistant station until it's your turn. We have established separate entrances into the building for healthy and sick people, and have created separate spaces inside the clinic to minimize interaction and cross contamination between healthy and sick individuals. We have even established a lab draw station outside near the back entrance of the building for those concerned and only needing lab draws, our technician will meet you outside where we have everything set up.

An interesting note that most of you are probably not aware of.... Several years ago when we had to replace the air conditioning system for the 1st floor we installed a system that includes a hospital operating room air scrubbing system. The system is designed to remove viruses, bacteria, mold and other contaminants from the air, virtually scrub the air clean. It uses ultra violet lights and 4 different filters to kill off and or trap particles down to the smallest micron. The system also includes air returns in every room and multiple ones in each of the hallways, all the air on the 1st floor is sent through the system every 9-11 minutes, and the system is serviced every 60 days replacing all filters and confirming lights systems are operational.

We honestly believe our facility and the operations we have in place makes it one of if not the safest health care facility you can be seen at.

In case you haven't heard firefighter physicals are being postponed, your obligation still remains and once operations get back to normal we will focus on getting those that missed their deadlines through the system as quickly as possible.

***Remember wash your hands frequently and practice social distancing,
and for those of you on the trucks please use your PPE at all times and
practice good hygiene!***