KETTERING
Health Network™

Coronavirus COVID-19 KHN UPDATE 3.13.20

Dear Patient,

On behalf of Kettering Health Network, we would like to share with you some developed guidelines and general information on the Coronavirus Pandemic. As always, your safety and well-being are our first priority. We hope that you find this information helpful.

COVID-19 is the disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS CoV-2. While this epidemic started in China, it has now spread in a worldwide distribution and the World Health Organization has declared this a pandemic. The United States is in a relatively early phase of the epidemic and patient numbers are expected to increase as testing becomes more widely available.

The following are our recommendations:

General Information:

- Fever, cough and shortness of breath are the most common symptoms though mild symptoms and asymptomatic cases occur.
- Only 5% of patients develop severe symptoms. The elderly population and chronic medical conditions are those who are at increased risk.
- Children do not seem to get infected at high rates and they typically have mild symptoms.

Guidance for General Public:

- Patients with mild symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate – DO NOT go to the Emergency Department for testing.
- Patients who are concerned that they may have come in contact with someone with COVID-19 should call their local health department for instructions on self-isolation at home and what to do if they develop any fever or respiratory symptoms.
- Severely ill patients should go to the Emergency Department.

Guidance for Hospitalized Patients

- Persons under investigation will be triaged in the Emergency Department. Testing will be sent to the laboratory and possibly the Ohio Department of Health. Turn-around time for lab results is estimated at 3-4 days.

- Visitors to the patient may be limited.
- At this time, all scheduled surgeries and procedures will still take place as scheduled. The patient will be notified of any changes or cancellations.

Who should be tested?

Your provider will use their clinical judgement to determine if a patient has signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19 and whether the patient should be tested. Decisions regarding who to test may be made in consultation with Infection Prevention and Control and the local health department.

Thank you for allowing Kettering Health Network to care for you. For additional information, please call the Ohio Department of Health Hotline 1-833-427-5634.