

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



To: All Staff, Professional Staff, Volunteers, and Learners

From: Dr. Peter Voros, EVP In-Patient Care Programs

Date: June 21, 2021

RE: **Essential Care Partners Update**

Our Hospital increased the allowance of Essential Care Partners as of Wednesday May 26, 2021. The guidance was never intended to be strict or rigid and the goal was always to allow for individual circumstances. There are still challenges with interpreting and applying the guidance for our patients, their families and staff and we must do everything we can to remove these challenges and barriers for the best possible patient care.

Key Messaging for staff:

- Patients are the ones to determine IF they require an Essential Care Partner based on the guidance. If a patient declares they require support, this is all we need to know to allow an ECP in any area of the hospital.
- There are many circumstances under which additional consideration must be given. Always err on the side of enabling access and support patient and caregiver interaction in as many ways as possible.

Please note:

The Patient Advocate can help with difficult situations and be contacted by calling (807) 629-3887.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Care Partner Liaison at (807) 684-7865.