Hospitals Address Recent Resurgence of COVID-19 Positive Cases

With the recent resurgence of COVID-19 positive cases in our community, officials at all of the local healthcare systems want the community to know that we have reached a critical point in this pandemic.

Yesterday, WCHD reported 330 new cases to total 11,802 cases in Winnebago County. This, coupled with a rising positivity rate, currently at 15.5 percent, has moved the region into enhanced state mitigations.

With the number of hospital admissions increasing, health care systems are beginning to feel the strain. Since the numbers are rising at alarming rates and hospitals are experiencing significant increases in COVID-19 admissions, the overall available bed spaces for those suffering from other medical illnesses is decreasing, as is the number of available qualified staff. While hospitals have not yet reached capacity or are feeling overwhelmed, they are concerned about what will happen if this trend of positive cases continues.

Additionally, hospital officials want patients and the community to know that current visitor restrictions at hospitals are an important part of our response to the significant rise in COVID-19 cases. While visitor restrictions can be difficult on patients and families, it’s crucial right now that hospitals limit interactions and preserve physical distancing and ensure that our patients and staff are not put in a position where they could be exposed.

Now more than ever, local health systems are pleading with the community to continue the preventive measures that can help stop the spread of the virus. Limit your contacts and follow the 3Ws (Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Watch your distancing). Follow local travel guidance and limit non-essential travel. Get your flu shot, and encourage others to do the same.

We must work together to stay healthy and stay safe.

Additional Information
- Visit the Winnebago County Health Department COVID-19 webpage at www.wchd.org/covid.

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