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## Pella Regional Continues to Provide Needed Medical Services

**PELLA, Iowa** – During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is crucially important patients stay well and manage chronic conditions as well as any new onset of medical concerns or symptoms. Pella Regional Health Center physicians are available to see patients. Pella Regional has taken many measures to assure patients can present to the hospital and clinics with low risk of exposure to COVID-19.

All patients and staff are screened before entering the building. Patients with infectious symptoms are directed to the Patient Assessment Center which is located in a separate building away from the hospital and Pella Medical Clinic. Staff members with direct patient care interaction are behind a Plexiglas shield or wearing the recommended personal protective equipment. This not only protects our health care workers but also provides protection to patients. Our goal is to keep our patients healthy and to avoid hospitalizations.

Pella Regional has recently implemented a service in the Pella Medical Clinic to allow patients to have lab draws obtained in the clinic rather than entering the hospital. Patients are registered and checked in remotely and then called in directly to the clinic lab area to limit interaction with other patients. All these measures are in place to lower the risk of exposure while continuing to provide needed medical services to our patients.

Physicians are reviewing their schedules weekly to determine the most appropriate way to meet the medical needs of their patients through virtual visits, face-to-face visits or by rescheduling for a later date. Decisions are based on what is best for the patient and their specific medical issues while maintaining compliance with social distancing and conservation of personal protective equipment as directed by Governor Reynolds.

Physicians at Pella Regional Health Center consider the following conditions are medically essential:

- Prenatal visits
- Well child visits and immunizations, especially 18 months and younger
- Chronic care visits for certain diagnosis (Diabetes, COPD, congestive heart failure, or hypertension for example)

- Cancer screenings such as mammography and lung cancer screening
- Acute illness or injury

If you are currently scheduled for a visit with your primary care provider and you have not been called to reschedule, please know that Pella Regional has taken great care to minimize your potential exposure and we remain available to see you for your ongoing health care needs.

Pella Regional Health Center is a not-for-profit provider of healthcare that is accredited by The Joint Commission. Its mission is to provide healthcare and healing services with Christian compassion. Information on Pella Regional Health Center and its clinics is available by calling Public Relations at 641-621-2362 or visiting the website, [www.pellahealth.org](http://www.pellahealth.org).

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