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**Scotland County Hospital & Clinics
Eases Visiting Restrictions**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Visiting restrictions are easing at Scotland County Hospital and Clinics. Beginning Friday, June 19, 2020, SCH & C will be allowing one visitor into the hospital and rural health clinics with a patient. There are exceptions to this rule which are as follows:

- A child may have both parents accompany them into the facility
- All visitors must pass the screening questions prior to being allowed into the facility
- No visitors will be allowed for inpatient Person Under Investigation (PUI) or COVID positive patients
- In keeping with our commitment to patient and family centered care, additional visitors may be allowed (per patient) under special circumstances at the discretion of the provider, when patient care concerns warrant
- All visitors will need to wear a mask while in the facility at all times

Each Scotland County Hospital inpatient may have one visitor at a time in their room between regular visiting hours. Visitors for inpatients must be 18 years of age or older and need to enter and exit through the SCH Main/ER/South Entrance, with parking in Lot C. All visitors must present with a mask or be given one upon arrival. Visitors will be required to wear a mask inside the facility at all times.

Additionally, each patient presenting at an SCH Rural Health Clinic (Memphis, Lancaster, Wyaconda & Edina) for an appointment will be allowed to have one person accompany them for their provider visit. If you are a parent(s) or guardian(s) accompanying your child/minor and you have other children, please do not bring them to the hospital/clinic when you are accompanying the child that needs the medical attention.

Hospital inpatient visitors are asked to be en route in the hallways to the patient's room, upon arrival, or to leave the building. The visitor must spend all other time in the patient's room (i.e. visitors should come prepared with a drink/snack/reading materials, etc. if planning to spend several hours) or nearby restroom. Visitors will not be allowed in the Dining Room for beverages & vending.

"Visiting restrictions have really been an awful part of this pandemic for hospitals and clinics and it's been even more heartbreaking to watch these restrictions on our elderly neighbors at the Care Center and RCF," said Randy Tobler, MD, FACOG, CPE, CEO, Scotland County Hospital

& Clinics. "The visiting restrictions have been and remain necessary for the safety of our patients, staff and community. We are easing some of those restrictions a bit, while the medical staff continues to closely watch the COVID numbers in the region. We are thankful for our community's patience, understanding and support in abiding by these safety steps so that together, we can navigate the challenges of COVID-19."

Scotland County Hospital & Clinics other COVID-19 visiting guidelines remain unchanged. For the following types of other patients, one support person may stay with the patient throughout the hospitalization:

- The significant other of a woman in labor or on post-partum
- A support person for patients receiving end of life care
- A support person for patients with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities or cognitive impairments

All visitors, patients and staff will continue to be screened upon entering all of the Scotland County Hospital facilities, including having their temperature taken and will be asked if they have pending COVID-19 test results. Additional questions include if the person has had a fever greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees; has had a cough; shortness of breath; loss of taste and smell and/or diarrhea.

If you are under quarantine due to COVID-19, please make arrangements for others to take care of your essential needs/errands; please do not leave your quarantine location for any reason other than a medical condition. If you have an essential medical condition/service needed, please call the COVID Hotline for further details at 660-956-6820.

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