

Contact: Laura Young, director, Marketing & Public Relations; laura.young@sghs.org, 912-466-2148

Southeast Georgia Health System Treats COVID-19 Patient at Camden Campus

BRUNSWICK, Georgia: March 11, 2020 – Since Southeast Georgia Health System began actively monitoring patients for coronavirus, we have consulted with the Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH) on a number of patients. To date, GDPH has authorized testing for two patients based on their clinical presentation and on the evening of Tuesday, March 10, the Health System received notification from GDPH that a patient treated at Southeast Georgia Health System – Camden Campus has preliminarily tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19). Results for the second patient have not yet been finalized.

We continue to work closely with public health officials to protect the health and safety of all of our patients, visitors and team members. We are assessing the risk of exposure pursuant to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and GDPH guidelines, and have notified those team members that may have had prolonged close contact to the patient. Out of an abundance of caution, potentially impacted team members will remain at home and be monitored by the GDPH and Team Member Health.

In addition, although the risk of exposure is low, the Health System has made the decision to proactively notify all patients who may have had contact with the affected patient in order to instruct them on next steps and address any concerns they may have.

The public can be assured that it is safe to seek care at Southeast Georgia Health System and we are prepared to assist the community as we all manage this complex health issue. We have the facilities and the expertise to care for patients suspected of having an infectious disease while protecting the safety of all of our patients, visitors and team members. Both acute care campuses have negative pressure isolation rooms with specialized ventilation systems and our caregivers use personal protective equipment when necessary.

The latest guidance on COVID-19 is available through the GDPH at its toll-free number, 1-866-PUB-HLTH (1-866-782-4584), its website dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus or through the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at cdc.gov. For further information regarding Southeast Georgia Health System's COVID-19 preparedness and local information, please visit sghs.org.

ABOUT SOUTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM

Southeast Georgia Health System is a not-for-profit health system comprised of two acute care hospitals, two long term care facilities, three immediate care centers, five family medicine centers and numerous employed physician practices. The Health System has multiple outpatient specialty care centers, including the only CyberKnife® M6 Program in Georgia, and a Cancer Care Center accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. The Health System is part of Coastal Community Health, a regional affiliation between Baptist Health and Southeast Georgia Health System forming a highly integrated hospital network focused on significant initiatives designed to enhance the quality and value of care provided to our contiguous communities. For more information, visit sghs.org.