



COVID-19 Update

March 30, 2020

Consolidation of Uniontown Primary Care Offices

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In an effort to continue to mitigate the possible spread of COVID-19, beginning today, we will be combining the Uniontown Primary Care office in Connellsville with the Primary Care office in Uniontown at the Uniontown office location, 201 Mary Higginson Drive, Uniontown, PA 15401.

The combining of the primary care offices will help us to maintain a safe work environment for all of our staff and patients.

This is another example of multiple organizational process changes we have taken and will continue to take over the coming days and weeks to protect all of you and ensure we are doing what is best for the safety of our patients and community.

Please see the attached memo from Fayette Physician Network Administration for full details on the combining of our Uniontown Primary Care offices.

For media inquiries or more information, please contact Uniontown Hospital Director of Community Relations Joshua Krysak at 724-430-8634 or krysak@utwn.org.



To: Patients of Fayette Physician Network Primary Care, Surgical Services and Cardiology

From: Fayette Physicians Network Administration

Date: March 30, 2020

RE: COVID-19 SIC Update – FPN Operational Changes

As we continue to monitor and adjust protocols in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are committed to following the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the state Department of Health to ensure the safety for our patients, providers and staff.

The following steps have been implemented to increase safety to our patients, providers and staff:

Consolidation of Primary Care

We will temporarily combine the Primary Care office in Connellsville and the Primary Care office in Uniontown to the Uniontown location. This change will take effect beginning Monday, March 30, 2020. We will only be seeing patients at the Uniontown location, 201 Mary Higginson Drive, Uniontown, PA 15401, until further notice. This will allow us to conserve staff, supplies and resources. If anyone has questions, you can still contact the Connellsville Office at 724-626-7335.

Telehealth

During this national emergency the CDC has recommended changing the ways in which providers practice medicine to a method of telehealth. Telehealth or telemedicine generally refers to the exchange of medical information from one site to another through electronic communication and telecommunications to improve a patient’s health.

Telehealth solutions are beneficial to patients because they get the care they need from home, and eliminates the need for them to go out which is safer for the patient. This also contributes to limiting the possible community spread of the virus, as well as limiting the exposure to other patients and staff members. We have recently implemented telephone visits as an alternative to a traditional in-person visit. During this type of “visit,” your provider will manage your care via a telephone call, which will assist to reduce the number of those who seek face-to-face care.

However, if a provider feels that a face-to-face visit is warranted, one will be scheduled. Our providers are reviewing and evaluating all patients on their schedules and making those determinations.

Office Changes - Screening

If an office visit is necessary, please be aware of the following measures that have been implemented to ensure everyone's safety:

- Depending on your symptoms, you may receive a call from a nurse or provider to determine what is the most appropriate type of visit.
- Upon entering the office, everyone will be screened for potential risk factors. If risk factors are present, a surgical mask will be provided to be worn during the visit.
- While waiting to see the provider, patients may either be asked to return to their car to wait or escorted directly to an examination room. This provides an additional layer of safety rather than patients sitting in the waiting area.
- We ask patients not to have other people accompany them into the office unless the patient is a child, elderly or has special needs.
- We have implemented enhanced cleaning and disinfecting to all surfaces in our practices, following CDC and public health guidance.

Testing for COVID-19

Our providers are currently ordering COVID-19 testing to be done at the Uniontown Hospital Drive-thru testing site located at the old Kmart on Matthew Drive in South Union Township. Please note that a prescription is required for testing. If you feel that you have been exposed to COVID-19 and/or are exhibiting symptoms, please contact our office.

Please be assured that every protocol change and adjustment during this difficult and unprecedented time is being taken to protect all of our patients and staff.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding.

Be safe and thank you.