



K'IMA:W MEDICAL CENTER

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An Entity of the Hoopa Valley Tribe

DATE: December 18, 2020

TO: Public

FROM: Dr. Eva Smith, Medical Director of KMC and Tribal Public Health Officer
Dr. Stephen Stake, COO of KMC

RE: Third KMC Staff Member COVID-19 Positive Case; Exposures believed to have occurred off-campus, not at KMC; KMC Operations

Third Positive Staff Member:

A third KMC staff member tested positive for COVID-19. Based on preliminary contact tracing, it is believed the primary exposure to COVID-19 occurred off campus. Contact tracing will continue to investigate possible exposures (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more within a 24 hour period) to staff and patients. Staff directly exposed are being notified and quarantining.

None of the three KMC staff testing positive for COVID-19 provide direct patient care. To date, there are no known COVID-19 exposures to patients visiting KMC.

KMC Operations:

The KMC Clinic is open for telehealth. If determined by a KMC provider on the rare occasion that a patient MUST be seen in person for care, this will be relayed to the front desk for entry. KMC is screening and limiting traffic into the clinic, requesting that all patients call ahead of time and schedule telehealth visits.

COVID-19 and other infection related testing and consultations are available in the rear of the clinic. Please call extension 0218 to speak with the COVID-19 Team to discuss COVID-19 related concerns. If the line is non-responsive (occupied), please leave a message and the team will respond as quickly as possible.

Pharmacy is open; Dental is open; Behavioral Health is limited to telehealth; Lab is limited to COVID-19 testing and provider order; PRC is limited to emergency gas vouchers by provider referral; Transportation is limited to deliveries and provider referral; Senior Nutrition is open for drive-thru; Diabetes is closed; Other departments will have limited staff to carry out essential operations.

KMC managers are meeting daily to assess safety and determine department operations. Thank you for your support of KMC staff as we aim to limit the spread of COVID-19 in the Hoopa Valley Tribal Community. We apologize for any inconvenience. Please wear a mask, distance 6 feet or more, wash your hands, avoid gatherings, and contact a provider if you are sick.

Future notice will be posted when additional information becomes available.