



Geary Community Hospital taking precautions to protect patients

Geary Community Hospital is taking special precautions to protect its patients during flu season. Hospital infection control nurse Sherri Robidou said that she wouldn't forbid adults and children from visiting patients yet. So far, the community has been spared the epidemic number of flu cases that neighboring communities are experiencing.

The hospital is, however, discouraging visitation, especially by children under the age of 12 and particularly in the women's health center, the hospital's obstetrics unit. Visitors who are experiencing an illness should not visit hospital patients. If the number of influenza cases increases in Geary County, GCH may consider further visitation limits.

Geary Community Hospital representatives participate in state and national health care provider information networks on a regular basis. Staff closely monitors the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website for the latest information and warnings.

Within the hospital, all patient rooms are equipped with wall-mounted hand sanitizers. All public restrooms have anti-bacterial soaps. Masks, hand sanitizers, and tissues are available at the information desks in the main lobby, the Medical Arts I lobby, the Surgery Center waiting room, and the emergency entrance.

Patients and visitors are encouraged to use any and all of these precautions while remembering that the best prevention against contagious illnesses like the seasonal or H1N1 flu is frequent and vigorous hand washing.

November 3, 2009
Cyndy Platt, Director of Public Relations
Geary Community Hospital
210-3307