Jeff Boer

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[STAFF] COVID Update

Good morning everyone,

A few short updates from yesterday.

1. We are utilizing handmade masks donated by community members for patients who are coming into the hospital. Currently, we have 80 masks, and that number appears to drop each day. We have to launder the masks twice daily to keep up with our ER and Outpatients. When we first handed out masks, we told staff to keep them in case we needed to utilize them on a daily basis – and they should keep them. However, we quickly moved to use surgical masks for associates. If anyone has any additional cloth masks at home, please bring them back to the hospital. We want to be able to utilize these cloth masks for our patients so that we can save the surgical masks for our associates. We need to do all we can to conserve our PPE.

2. We have developed a process for sanitizing surgical masks:

- a. A green plastic tote has been placed in the south (main) station on the med/surg unit. The tote is labeled "Masks to be sanitized."
- b. Next to the green tote is a pink basin labeled "Paper bags for
- c. Place the mask, to be sanitized, in a plastic grocery bag located by the tote. Place the mask and bag into the green tote. Please make sure your name is clearly marked on the mask.
- d. Place your clean paper bag into the pink basin. Please make sure your name and department are clearly written on the bag.
- e. The masks will be sanitized and placed back into your paper bag.
- f. Sanitized masks will be placed on the counter in the Progressive Care (north) med/surg station.
- g. Please pick up your sanitized mask at the Progressive Care station.

If you have any questions about either of these processes, please contact Vicki White.

Thanks, Brian

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