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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 18, 2020

SAMARITAN CLINIC ON PIONEER OPENS RESPIRATORY VIRUS EVALUATION CENTER TO ASSIST WITH COVID-19

Moses Lake –Samaritan Healthcare announced the opening of the Samaritan Respiratory Virus Evaluation Center (RVEC Clinic), located at the west entrance of Samaritan Clinic on Pioneer. The RVEC Clinic intends to help medically screen any patients currently experiencing respiratory illness symptoms, including cough, fever, and difficulty breathing, and for patients who have concerns that they may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Patients are encouraged to call the 24-hour nurse (509-764-3331) hotline prior to visiting the RVEC Clinic or local Emergency Department. Those that are referred to the RVEC clinic will enter Samaritan Clinic on Pioneer using the west entrance and proceed to Suite 180.

“This is an extra level of precaution we’re taking to protect our patients, staff and community,” said Samaritan Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Andrea Carter. “By directing patients to use a single entrance into a single clinic, we’re establishing a more controlled screening area for patients who may be contagious. Furthermore, this aids us in reducing the potential for otherwise healthy patients and staff being exposed to this virus.”

Patients who are seeking care for other health concerns and who are **not** experiencing respiratory illness or COVID-19 symptoms should use the clinic’s front entrance. Samaritan Clinic on Patton also provides Family Medicine and Urgent Care services, Monday through Friday, for those who are not exhibiting symptoms of respiratory illness.

“We continue to encourage people to take proper precautions against the spread of infectious disease, including frequent handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home when ill,” said Dr. Carter.

For more information on Samaritan’s response to COVID-19 as well as resources related to symptoms, treatment, and communication please visit the Health Alert link on Samaritan Healthcare’s website. Additionally, for anyone with concerns that they may have been exposed to COVID-19, we encourage them to call our 24-hour nurse hotline at 509-764-3331.