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Covid-19 on the Rise in Southeast Missouri

JANUARY 08TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

Covid-19 on the Rise in Southeast Missouri

Stoddard County, MO - According to the Missouri Recovery Dashboard (Jan. 5), Stoddard County has recorded 4,037 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 79 deaths and, over the last seven days, 40 new cases. Keep in mind that with the Omicron variant, many cases are mild and individuals may not elect to be tested or in some cases even know that they are infected because they are asymptomatic.

Health experts say the best defense is still getting vaccinated/boosted, social distancing, wearing masks and handwashing.

Individuals who want COVID-19 vaccinations/boosters are advised to contact their local pharmacies in the Dexter area.

Patients in the Dexter area who think they may have COVID-19 can make an appointment to be tested at one of SoutheastHEALTH's primary care clinics located in

SoutheastHEALTH Family Medicine of Dexter, 573-624-7575

SoutheastHEALTH Bernie Clinic, 573-293-5336

SoutheastHEALTH Bloomfield Clinic, 573-568-3686

SoutheastHEALTH Malden Clinic, 573-276-2221

SoutheastHEALTH New Madrid Clinic, 573-521-2442

SoutheastHEALTH Family Medicine of Poplar Bluff, 573-778-0020

SoutheastHEALTH Sikeston Clinic (pediatrics), 573-931-8181

The Clinic at Walmart operated by SoutheastHEALTH, 573-614-4600

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SoutheastHEALTH Adds Virtual Nursing to Care Resources

JANUARY 07TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

SoutheastHEALTH Adds Virtual Nursing to Care Resources

SoutheastHEALTH announced today the launch of a new virtual nursing platform that will provide the hospital with increased nursing coverage, improved efficiency and further enhance high quality patient care.

SoutheastHEALTH identified a need to create new and innovative models of care to meet the growing demands of patients and nurses, along with an understanding that new technologies bring about novel and flexible ways of working. Southeast virtual nursing operationalizes technology, supports clinical decision-making processes, elevates the continuity of care, heightens patient safety and provides a work environment conducive for keeping technically competent and highly educated nurses engaged at the bedside.

Roles of the virtual nurse in this advanced approach to patient care include admission and discharge coordination, enriched patient education, medication reconciliation and more, freeing up the in-house nursing staff to spend more time at the bedside administering direct care and support so critical to the patient experience. Southeast Hospital is licensed for 244 beds; 112 beds are equipped with virtual nursing capabilities. Patients will continue to have a dedicated bedside nurse who provides all the hands-on care that is needed to continue the road to recovery, including medical assessments, medication administration and treatments.

SoutheastHEALTH Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer Gina Leath, RN, MSN, NE-BC, CCRN-K, said, "Healthcare teams across the nation are struggling with nursing shortages and the many challenges that creates, such as costly traveling nurse positions. At the same time, we must meet stringent clinical outcomes and quality measures to ensure quality patient outcomes and reimbursements. With this program, we will eliminate fragmentation, increase collaboration and easily adjust nursing staffing based on patient census."

Leath said virtual nurse technology is easy for both patients and families to use. "When the virtual nurse call button is selected, a virtual nurse will appear. A TV monitor displays the live nurse, and a camera located within the patient room will also turn on, allowing the virtual nurse to see the patient." She emphasized the importance of patient privacy, adding that the virtual nurse will always ask permission before turning on the camera. The use of

remote technology for nursing services is not new. Statistics show that more than 70 percent of healthcare providers currently use some form of virtual care, a rise from 54 percent five years ago. SoutheastHEALTH has offered telemedicine visits for many of its outpatient clinics for years. However, the new virtual nursing program with real-time patient care is a game-changer for Southeast patients and staff.

About SoutheastHEALTH

At SoutheastHEALTH, the region's premier healthcare system in southeast Missouri, our patients receive excellent care of the highest clinical quality, close to home. Within our network are more than 50 care locations in 13 communities, including hospitals, primary and specialty care clinics representing over 30 clinical specialties and extending care for patients in a four-state area. Learn more at SEhealth.org.

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SoutheastHEALTH Welcomes Orthopedic Specialist

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SoutheastHEALTH Welcomes Orthopedic Specialist

Southeast Orthopedics and Sports Medicine has welcomed two new physicians to its growing team of specialists. Shawn Duxbury, MD, and Josh Hammond, MD, bring with them exceptional expertise in scoliosis and hand and wrist surgery.

Duxbury completed his medical degree at the University of Alabama School of Medicine and followed that with a residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Atlanta Medical Center. He also completed a fellowship in Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery at Emory University. He is recognized for his expertise in treating scoliosis, pediatric fracture care and trauma and general pediatric orthopedics.

He says that "pediatric and adolescent patients are the best patients to work with in the world. They're resilient, they heal well and quickly, they are motivated and so much fun." Duxbury also enjoys helping patients with scoliosis "who were embarrassed or felt different gain confidence and get back to their jobs of being kids."

Hammond earned his medical degree at the University of Michigan Medical School. He completed a residency in Orthopedic Surgery at McLaren-Flint/Michigan State University and a fellowship in Hand Surgery at the University of Alabama.

He says that the chose hand surgery as his specialty "because our hands are so vital to the human experience – conversing with someone, sharing a meal, playing on a sports team, family game night and the like. We really don't realize how much we use and need our hands until something happens to them." Hammond is noted for his excellence in surgical intervention for carpal tunnel disease and management of base of thumb arthritis.

Duxbury and Hammond join a team of SoutheastHEALTH Orthopedic and Sports Medicine experts who include Anthony McPherron, DO, Matthew Baker, MD, Charity Jacobs, MD, Andrew Lawrence, MD, and Jimmy Bowen, MD.

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Southeast Hospital Earns Prestigious Recertification as Comprehensive Cardiac Center

DECEMBER 03RD 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Southeast Hospital Earns Prestigious Recertification as Comprehensive Cardiac Center

Southeast Hospital, flagship of the SoutheastHEALTH system of care, has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval and the American Heart Association's Heart-Check mark for recertification as a Comprehensive Cardiac Center (CCC).

The recertification recognizes Southeast's heart program for its comprehensive approach to care and commitment to excellence. To achieve this status, Southeast underwent a rigorous, in-depth, unannounced onsite review earlier this year.

SoutheastHEALTH President and CEO Ken Bateman, said that in order to maintain said in order to obtain CCC Certification, the organization was required to show excellence and exceed quality measurements in at least seven of the following areas, including coronary artery bypass, heart failure and cardiac rehabilitation.

"We are humbled to once again receive this recognition, which is a direct result of a spirit of commitment, teamwork and a track record of excellence in our many areas of cardiac care," he added. "Even the myriad of challenges thrust upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic, did not impact our mission of providing exceptional care, in exceptional times."

SoutheastHEALTH is a recognized leader in cardiac care, this year earning six major, national accolades through the American Heart Association in the treatment of heart, vascular and stroke care and recognition by the American College of Cardiology as one of the nation's best hospitals for delivering outstanding care to heart patients.

"Cardiac Center Certification recognizes healthcare organizations devoted to fostering continuous quality improvement in patient safety and quality of care," said Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations, and chief nursing executive, The Joint Commission. "We commend SoutheastHEALTH for using certification to strength its program structure for cardiac patients."

"We congratulate SoutheastHEALTH for this outstanding achievement," says Nancy Brown, chief executive officer, the American Heart Association. "This certification reflects its commitment to providing the highest quality of care for cardiac patients."

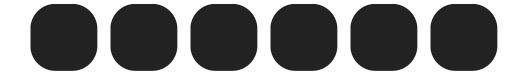
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