



HEALTHCARE DURING THE PANDEMIC

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Tools For Meeting Lifes Challenges



Introduction

What is Coronavirus

- Viral respiratory infection
- Signs and symptoms
- Self Quarantine
- When to call your Physician
- When to seek emergency medical care

Seeking Medical Care during the Pandemic

- Routine health care appointments postponed
- Routine illness- telephone triage
- Telemedicine-uses video and audio
- Office visits-face to face encounter if needed
- Wear mask, handwashing when entering and exiting practice

When you need to go to the Emergency Room

- If able, have a family member call your Primary Doctor
- Primary Doctor can call emergency room to give them your symptoms
- Family member may need to call emergency room if Doctor doesn't call
- Wear a mask before entering hospital
- 911 for medical emergencies-tell dispatch your symptoms
- One parent per child or person with disability will be allowed

If you or your family member requires homecare

- Screen Homecare staff- travel questions
- Ask staff to take their temperature-do not allow them in if temperature is greater than 99.5 degrees F
- Staff must wear a mask in your home at all times
- Home care staff are responsible to bring their own mask, gloves

Infection Control

- Home care staff are responsible for:
- Handwashing and wearing mask
- Disinfecting surfaces around your family member
- Keeping your family member clean and safe
- Staff should not take your family member out into the community, grocery stores, etc
- Infection control is documented in careplan

Risks and Benefits to allowing homecare staff in your home

- Home care staff may take care of several clients in different home-increase in potential exposure to Coronavirus
- If homecare services are declined-family member will provide 24 hour care and could become exhausted
- Homecare staff may be reassigned to other clients if services are declined
- If Home care staff screen negative to exposure they can be a great support to you and your family member

Insurance concerns during the pandemic

- May need an increase or decrease in services depending on employment of family members, school closure, etc
- If home care services are declined, insurance may decrease services in future certification periods
- Many insurance plans have approved early refill of medications and medical supplies-up to three months supply

Conclusion-It's all about Planning

- Financial planning in light of layoffs
- Planning for care of your loved one with limited home care staff
- Planning to seek medical care for yourself in family member
- Planning day to day life-infection control, groceries, etc
- Staying strong and supporting one another