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## **Colleton Medical Center updates visitation policy**

(Walterboro, SC) – As we continue to see an increase in positive COVID-19 cases in Colleton County and an influx of patients in the hospital, Colleton Medical Center will be limiting its visitation for the safety of our patients and employees.

Patients that have tested positive for COVID-19 or screen positive upon entry to the hospital will not be allowed a visitor during their stay.

Beginning Thursday, July 9, patients that do not screen positive for COVID-19 will be limited to one designated support person per patient from noon to 5pm each day. Support persons for minors and laboring mothers will be permitted to spend the night.

Colleton Medical Center will continue to screen all patients, visitors, and employees for their symptoms and known COVID-19 exposures as they enter the hospital. All patients, visitors, and employees are required to wear a hospital-issued mask while in the facility.

“We’ve learned a lot since the beginning of the pandemic and have seen the positive effects of universal masking, limiting visitation, and social distancing in the hospital,” said CEO, Jimmy Hiott. “As numbers continue to spike in the Lowcountry, we are increasing these measures to ensure the safety of our patients and staff.”

Colleton Medical Center firmly supports the city and county masking guidelines in preventing the spread of COVID-19. This along with practicing good hand hygiene, avoiding large crowds, and frequently disinfecting high touch items are all pertinent in the prevention of contracting this and other infectious diseases.

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### *About Colleton Medical Center*

*Located in the heart of Walterboro, Colleton Medical Center (CMC) has a longstanding history as a leader in the community with a commitment to patient-centered care. CMC is an HCA facility, with 135 beds, offering both inpatient and outpatient medical services, as well as 24/7 Emergency Care for adults and children. Named a Top Performer on Key Quality Measures by The Joint Commission for four consecutive years, CMC ranks in the top 15 percent of U.S. hospitals for quality care. Committed to quality services and compassionate care, CMC continues to expand and advance to meet the needs of a growing community.*