



PRESS RELEASE — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: PeaceHealth Medical Group
3100 Tongass Avenue, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Date: March 22, 2020
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PeaceHealth Medical Group Temporary Closure

Ketchikan, Alaska, March 22, 2020 - For the health and safety of patients and caregivers, PeaceHealth Medical Group in Ketchikan will be closing their clinics Monday, March 23, and Tuesday, March 24. The clinic will undergo thorough disinfection after two caregivers tested positive for COVID-19. Those caregivers are now in quarantine at home.

PeaceHealth's Employee Health and Infection Prevention teams are working in partnership with Ketchikan Public Health to conduct a thorough investigation.

PeaceHealth Medical Group is handling the situation with the utmost respect to privacy while also informing potentially affected patients and employees and taking swift measures to mitigate spread of the virus by conducting appropriate testing and employee monitoring.

PeaceHealth is requiring staff to follow the CDC guidance about COVID-19 to prevent illness and recognize symptoms. Those employees potentially exposed to COVID-19 are following the guidelines for caregivers with known exposures by wearing a mask while in the facility, being checked for fever twice a day, and completing a daily Employee Health Screening Questionnaire for 14 days following exposure. At the onset of any symptoms, employees are to immediately enter self-quarantine at home.

All patients affected by the clinic closure on Monday and Tuesday will be contact by phone to hold their appointment via telemedicine or reschedule for a later date.

Patient with health care concerns may call any PeaceHealth Clinic number to receive assistance. As always, patients with life-threatening conditions are encouraged to call 911 or to go immediately to the ER.

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Visit peacehealth.org/coronavirus to read the latest news at PeaceHealth, as well as helpful education and prevention resources related to COVID-19.