

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Resumption of Elective Surgical Procedures

Caribou Memorial Hospital has begun the process of ending the voluntary suspension of elective surgical procedures, adopted per request from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in late March. The “re-opening” of our facility will be a phased-in approach that also follows their recommendations.

CMH’s response to all of the issues has been and will be first and most importantly the safety of our staff, community, and the Living Center residents.

On May 4, 2020, we will **resume elective surgeries and procedures**. However, we are creating workflows for the patients to be received in the Outpatient Services area and entry into the hospital will be through the downstairs doors near the Surgery Department. Patients will receive pre-surgery guidance and testing in our outpatient clinic prior to the day of their surgery.

All other efforts to mitigate the risks to our staff, community, and Residents will remain:

- **Visitation remains restricted in the Living Center**
- **One visitor for hospital patients**
- **One visitor for surgical or procedural patients**
- **Limited entry points into the facility**
- **Continued screening at all entry points into the facility**
- **Staff within the building will continue to be limited to those essential to providing services or care to patients**
- **Per CDC guidelines, masks will continue to be worn by everyone on campus**

We will continue to work together in our response to these situations to keep our patients, residents, employees, and our community first and foremost in our thoughts and actions.