

## **Summit Pacific to Require Curbside Check-in Beginning Sept. 7**

*Other Updates Include Current Visitation Policy, Vaccine Updates for Immunocompromised, Virtual Visits*

(ELMA, WA) – Due to the increase in COVID-19 cases, Summit Pacific is taking extra steps to protect our patients, staff, visitors and the community. To reduce the number of patients in waiting rooms and increase physical distancing, Summit Pacific will require curbside check-in beginning Tuesday, Sept. 7.

Patients, with the exception of those seeking care at our Emergency Department, are asked to call 360-495-5790 upon arriving at Summit Pacific to check in with a registration specialist and then wait for their visit in the comfort of their own vehicles. Once caregivers are ready for the patient, the patient will receive a text message or phone call to enter the building, receive a health screening and proceed to their visit.

Emergency Department patients can walk into the Emergency Department to check in and receive an evaluation. Then if the patient is able, they may return to their vehicle to wait.

### ***Current Visitation Policy***

A no-visitors policy is in place until further notice. This means no visitors, with limited exceptions for special circumstances. Our care teams will communicate with a family member or friend, as designated by the patient, to help inform care as needed.

- **Emergency Department:** Visitors allowed if essential to care.
- **Inpatient Unit:** No visitors allowed. Visitation for end-of-life care is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- **Clinics:** Only essential caregivers may attend visits.

### ***Immunocompromised Individuals Now Eligible for Third Dose of Vaccine***

CDC recommends those with moderately to severely compromised immune systems receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of Pfizer or Moderna. Being immunocompromised means that your immune system is weakened, either by disease or medication. When possible, your third dose should be the same vaccine as the first two doses, but may be the other mRNA vaccine brand if the original is not available. Currently no additional dose is recommended for those who received the J&J vaccine.

If you are immunocompromised, please visit [healthmartcovidvaccine.com](https://healthmartcovidvaccine.com) to schedule a third dose appointment. You can also visit [vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov](https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov) to find a vaccine location near you.

For those seeking a first or second dose of vaccine, Grays Harbor County Public Health & Social Services Department offers free COVID-19 vaccine clinics each week. Schedule an appointment online at [healthygh.org/covid19-vaccine-appointment](https://healthygh.org/covid19-vaccine-appointment) or visit [vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov](https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov) to find a vaccine location near you.

### ***Virtual Primary Care Visits***

In 2020, Summit Pacific expanded the ability to provide virtual healthcare visits for patients who want to get care from the comfort and safety of their own homes. Simply connect to your appointment via your



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smartphone, tablet or computer with camera; there is no need to download additional apps or software. Patients will receive a link in their email to join the visit. Request a virtual visit when you schedule your next appointment by calling 360-346-2222. Patients should consider virtual visits for routine visits, follow-up appointments or for minor illnesses. Virtual visits are not for severe or life-threatening emergencies; if you are experiencing an emergency, you should call 911 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.

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Summit Pacific's vision is "Through Summit Care, we will build the healthiest community in the Nation." We passionately provide essential healthcare to all individuals of our community with an emphasis on quality, access and compassion. Summit Pacific operates a Level IV Critical Access Hospital with 24-hour emergency services, rural healthcare clinics, an urgent care clinic and offers physical and occupational therapy, laboratory services, diagnostic imaging, a swing bed program and more. To learn more about Summit Pacific, visit [www.sp-mc.org](http://www.sp-mc.org).