



News Release

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Columbus Community Hospital offers infusion services

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – The infusion center at Columbus Community Hospital provides needed health care close to home.

Patients needing medication, fluids and blood products intravenously for chronic or long-term treatment can receive that care without leaving Columbus.

Services are provided for patients of all ages who have been diagnosed with blood disorders, cancer, chronic kidney disease, infections requiring IV antibiotics or dressing changes, multiple sclerosis, osteoporosis/rheumatoid arthritis and gastrointestinal disorders.

Some people need infusions weekly or more often for a prolonged period. Having a local infusion center means patients don't have to travel to a medical facility in another community.

"Driving to Lincoln or Omaha every week for an infusion is costly to the patient and their family. We have a group of highly qualified nurses at Columbus Community Hospital who can care for central lines and give complex medication. The infusion center is also located in the hospital, which means it is close to care should there be a need," said Dorothy Bybee, vice president of patient care services.

The infusion center, which is on the second floor of the hospital, has heat and massage recliners for patients. The center is also set up with televisions for patients to watch and partitions for privacy.

For longer treatments, patients can have a separate room.

"We really do our best to accommodate patients and their families to make them as comfortable as we possibly can while respecting their privacy and integrity," said Sami Wunderlich, infusion center service line coordinator.



The infusion center is staffed with nurses who are all chemotherapy/biotherapy certified and specially trained in intravenous and related treatments. Some of those treatments include:

- Biophosphonate therapy
- Central line and PICC line catheter care
- Chemotherapy
- Growth factor administration
- Hydration and electrolyte management
- IV antibiotic administration
- IV immune globulin
- Monoclonal antibodies
- Transfusion of blood and blood products
- Therapeutic phlebotomy

The infusion center has remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Many infusion patients require their therapy of blood, medications and chemo and do not have the option to just not come,” said Janet Loseke, director of the acute care unit.

Infusion services is open weekdays. Appointments are offered with flexible scheduling options. For more information about infusion services at CCH, visit www.columbushosp.org.

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