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MEDIA HOLDING STATEMENT

Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Wytheville, Virginia (March 9, 2020) – Wythe County Community Hospital is committed to providing the highest quality care and ensuring the safety of our patients, employees, providers, volunteers and visitors. We are continuing to work closely with Wythe and Bland County Health Departments and following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to ensure our hospital is prepared with the appropriate plans to detect, protect and respond should anyone in our community contract or be exposed to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Additionally, we are reviewing our facility’s robust emergency operations plan and proactively completing a number of preparation checklists out of an abundance of caution.

While we have not evaluated OR treated any patients with this virus at our hospital to date, and there have been confirmed cases in Virginia, Wythe County Community Hospital has taken the following measures to prepare, in accordance with CDC guidelines:

- Patients in the Emergency Department, inpatient units and outside clinics are screened based on their recent travel history and respiratory symptoms.
- Personal protective equipment is available, including face masks and eye protection, for example.
- Hand hygiene products are easily accessible throughout the facility.

Importantly, all of the above are standard operating protocols that are in place year-round to help ensure the health and well-being of everyone who enters our hospital.

We want to assure our community that our providers and clinical teams are well-trained and prepared to manage outbreaks of viruses and infectious diseases, including the coronavirus. For more information, contact Wythe or Bland County Health Departments, Virginia Department of Health or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov

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