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For immediate release

Doshier encourages patients to seek community resources for COVID-19 screening

SOUTHPORT— Doshier Memorial Hospital takes every measure possible to treat all patients who need emergency care in a safe and timely manner. Due to the recent uptick in COVID cases locally and the corresponding increase in need for COVID testing, it is important to remind the community that our Emergency Department prioritizes acuity over arrival time, and that patients with non-critical symptoms may wait longer for treatment.

Doshier encourages those seeking COVID tests to call their primary care physicians first for further advice and direction. Other options for COVID testing include Doshier Convenient Care at the Doshier Wellness Center, which is a same day treatment clinic for minor illness and injury. Patients are asked to call 910-454-4732 for an appointment time.

It is important to note that neither the Doshier Emergency Department nor the Doshier Convenient Care perform COVID testing for travel.

To find other local testing sites, go to BrunswickCounty.gov/health/coronavirus/testing or [Find My Testing Place | NC COVID-19 \(ncdhhs.gov\)](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/Find-My-Testing-Place). Patients may also ask their physicians if a home testing kit, although in short supply, is an appropriate option for their specific circumstances.

To mitigate the spread of COVID, the CDC advises that everyone 2 years or older who is not fully vaccinated wear a mask in indoor public places and that regardless of vaccination status, everyone aged 2 or older wear a mask in substantial or high transmission areas while indoors in public.

All community members aged 5 or older are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccines. Please contact your physician, Brunswick County Health Services, or go to [Doshier.org/COVID](https://www.doshier.org/COVID) for a full list of local vaccination sites.

For questions about COVID-19, the following state and county resources are available:
Brunswick County Public Health Call Line and Email Information (Available Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

- Phone: 1.910.253.2339
- Email: coronavirus@brunswickcountync.gov

NC Public Health Call Line (Open 24/7)

- 1.866.462.3821

See the NC DHHS FAQs on Coronavirus at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/frequently-asked-questions-about-covid-19>

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