

April 2, 2020

In the coming weeks, we anticipate that local emergency rooms in our surrounding communities will soon be overwhelmed with managing the surge of Covid-19 patients. To mitigate the strain on resources and staff in the ERs, we will begin utilizing secure telepsychiatry services to assess and accept patients to Southwood Hospital. This will ultimately prevent unnecessary exposure amongst the psychiatric patients we treat.

Southwood Hospital will have an on-call psychiatrist available to perform these assessments remotely when not physically onsite at Southwood Hospital.

We anticipate there will be times that referrals will still need to be sent to an Emergency Room in order to be medically cleared prior to acceptance to Southwood. This may include those that are under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, individuals who have ingested substances or items, and those with complex medical issues to name a few.

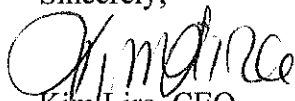
In order to utilize this service, please contact Southwood's admissions department at 412-257-2290, who will be able to assist you.

Ultimately, we feel that offering this service will allow patients to continue to have access to the mental health services they need in times of crisis; predominantly when many are trying to avoid going to an emergency room and risking exposure to the infectious ailment.

As always, please remember that any physician regardless of their location, outpatient office, PCP's office, emergency clinic, etc. can complete an assessment of an individual in crisis and complete the voluntary 201 examination paperwork which is attached.

We will do our best to accommodate all children and adolescents in need of crisis stabilization during these unprecedented times, but please understand that we will be screening for COVID-19 and acceptance will be, in part, contingent on the results of the screening indicators.

Sincerely,



Kim Lira, CEO