



NEWS RELEASE

28TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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ELLSWORTH ADJUSTS HOURS AT MEDICAL CLINIC

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE, S.D. – The 28th Medical Group has transitioned to conducting routine, non-respiratory related care and pharmacy services for beneficiaries from opening until 11:30 a.m., and COVID-19 screening and other more high-risk appointments and services from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The two distinct periods of service are part of the base's continued efforts to provide safety for all who access the installation.

"We are taking these proactive measures to ensure the safety of our Airmen and their families, and to safeguard our ability to accomplish our mission," said Col. David Doss, 28th Bomb Wing commander. "This process is designed to minimize the risk to everyone."

Any beneficiaries who are displaying respiratory illness symptoms such as a cough, fever and shortness of breath should refrain from coming to the base clinic before noon unless instructed to do so by their provider. The clinic will close at 11:30 a.m. to give staff time to clean exam rooms and waiting areas, and prepare to receive patients in the afternoon.

This change includes individuals picking up prescriptions at the clinic. Beneficiaries who are not experiencing respiratory illness symptoms will not be permitted to enter the clinic after 12:30 p.m., unless they have a scheduled appointment or require mental health services.

The base is continuing to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the Department of Defense, and the South Dakota Department of Health. That guidance includes placing restrictions on services, facilities, base access and limit gatherings in an effort to maintain as much mission capability and readiness as possible.

The DoD and Ellsworth will continue to follow the CDC guidance for this outbreak and will continually assess the need for access restrictions and will adjust accordingly as the situation evolves.

For the latest base specific information on COVID-19, visit the Ellsworth AFB website at <https://www.Ellsworth.af.mil/COVID-19/>. For more information, contact 28th Bomb Wing Public Affairs at (605) 385-5056.