



## Administrator's Report September 27, 2022

### General Hospital District Information Update

**COVID -19 State and Local Update:** The Granite County Covid-19 community level is considered medium at this time, with 4 active cases and a rate of 118.38 per 100,000. The Hospital recently had 1 LTC resident test positive. Two patients were quickly isolated and strict infection control measures were implemented to control transmission. Families, Public Health and the State were notified. All staff and residents were tested and monitored.

As of today, Granite County has **4** active cases. There were **1,427** new confirmed cases in Montana last week.

According to the Montana Response map:

- 309,452 Total cases from Montana
- 1,648 Active cases in Montana
- 73 Active Hospitalizations
- 3,518 Deaths

**Vaccines:** We recently received 200 doses of Moderna bivalent vaccine. The bivalent COVID-19 vaccines include a component of the original virus strain to provide broad protection against COVID-19 and a component of the omicron variant to provide better protection against COVID-19 caused by the omicron variant. The FDA authorized bivalent formulations of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines for use as a single booster dose at least two months after completing primary or booster vaccination.

- The [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent](#) is authorized for use as single booster dose in **individuals 18 years of age and older**.
- The [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent](#) is authorized for use as a single booster dose in **individuals 12 years of age and older**. The monovalent Pfizer vaccine remains authorized as a booster dose in 5–11-year-olds **only**.
- The monovalent Moderna (ages 6 months and older) and Pfizer (ages 6 months and older) vaccines remain authorized for completion of the primary vaccine series.
- A bivalent COVID-19 booster dose can be co-administered with other vaccines, including a flu shot.

The bivalent COVID-19 booster was produced because the BA.4/BA.5 strains of the omicron variant are currently causing the most cases of COVID-19 in the United States. These strains are predicted to circulate heavily this fall and winter.

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In regard to vaccinations, Granite County remains at 39% and Montana at 53% of its eligible population fully vaccinated

### MonkeyPox:

- **Current Status:** There have been 5 cases of monkeypox identified in Montana, in Flathead, Gallatin, Hill and Lake counties. There have been over 25,000 [confirmed](#) monkeypox cases across the U.S. as of Yesterday, according to the CDC. Globally, there have been more than 64,000 cases. According to the World Health Organization, the monkeypox outbreak has been declared a public health emergency of international concern.

### Hospital/LTC:

Our residents have been busy with activities. They went on two outings during the month. The first outing was a ride down Rock Creek to the second bridge and then came back by way of the Skalkaho. The second outing was to Moose Lake. They were busy with two different craft projects. Every Tuesday they get to listen to their favorite cowboy singer Jay, and that always makes their day. They also play bingo 2-3 times a week, plus other table games they enjoy. They try to get outside as much as possible, because our days are limited to the warm weather. One of their favorite things to do is the parachute in the dining room. They all sit in a circle and hold on to the handles and lift up the parachute with the ball in the middle and get it going around to each resident. All of the residents laugh and have a great time.

The hospital flooring project is nearly complete, with just the provider area still needing flooring replaced. Hospital rooms and offices all received new flooring. Thank you to H&R for helping us to finance the project! The new flooring is a great update. During the installation was a perfect time to move most residents to semi-private rooms. Roommates were chosen as carefully as possible for like personalities and interests. Having many of the residents double up in the rooms allowed for us to create a designated hospital area. This will not only allow for more acute and swing bed rooms for patients to return closer to their family after a hospital stay or procedure, but also allowed us to isolate and avoid a recent Covid outbreak. We had one resident test positive and

immediately isolated the resident and their roommate to one area of the hospital separately. We created an isolated wing with two zippered plastic walls. This allowed for an area to don and doff PPE, as well as isolation rooms behind the second plastic wall to keep positive and potentially positive residents separated from healthy residents. The isolation wing was in place for 14 days and we successfully averted an outbreak with only the initial resident testing positive. Congratulations and thank you to our tremendous staff for strictly following isolation and infection control policies and guidelines!

### Business Department/Revenue Cycle Team:

**Central Supply:** We are working to update our chargemaster and will be eventually uploading it into Jumpstock, an application of Athena to charge and track supplies. This will be useful to assure charge capture and track use of supplies. This is a capability of Athena not previously being used.

**Clinics:** Currently we are looking at the possibility of adding additional days per week to our Drummond clinic schedule, with the goal of having a provider there 5 days per week. This is in the early stages.

**Dietary:** Our dietary department received a new steam table for the kitchen and it was installed last week. We donated our old table to the senior center.

**Grants:** I have met with Healthy Granite County Network on a couple of occasions now to start building our relationship and see how we can both benefit each other. We are working together to roll out a Health Needs Assessment to residents in the near future.

**Emergency Preparedness:** We will participate in the Great Montana Shake Out on 10/20 at 10:20. This is a worldwide earthquake drill that millions of people can participate in at work, school, or home.

**Environmental Services:** No Report

**IT:** Just prior to our recent Covid case, we implemented a call multiplier app to mass message in case of emergencies, and disasters, and to improve overall communication. It has proven to be an important and useful tool, as we were able to

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message all resident families and staff to inform them of the potential outbreak. This is important to inform them directly to hear it from the hospital first. This will ensure better communication and safety for future events. We have also started exploring the option of electronic medication cabinets to interface with Athena.

Laboratory: No Report

Marketing: No Report

### **Human Resources:**

We are excited to announce the hiring of 2 permanent full-time RN's and one part-time RN. They are all excellent nurses and we are looking forward to building our own workforce and moving away from contract employees.

We have hired another part-time relief radiology/CT tech to add to our staff. This is in addition to our own two full-time staff. We have also had interest from a 4<sup>th</sup> candidate.

1-Permanent Housekeeping Director-we have placed an interim candidate as supervisor

1-Housekeeping-Full Time or Part Time

1-Drummond Houskeeping-Part Time

1-Cook-Full Time, however we did hire a part time employee this week and are interviewing another

1-Board Clerk

1-RN Charge Nurse Nights

5-CNA 3 day shift, 2 night shift

1-New position-Infection Control/MDS Nurse

1-New position – Activities/Social Services

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**Maintenance / Transportation:**

As mentioned earlier, the majority of the flooring project is done. We have started construction of a new pharmacy area near the Emergency Room. This will allow us better convenience in emergencies, as well as a secure, well organized space with our own medication disposal area. We are identifying other areas in need of maintenance as well, such as window replacement, improved plumbing and drainage, scale calibration and certification, etc.

**Medical Staff:**

- New Credentials: None
- Temporary Privileges: None
- Re-credentialed Providers: None
- Resignations: None

**Nursing:**

• **August Patient Census**

ER Visits	= 46	Swing Bed billable days	= 0
Intermediate Swing Bed (LTC)	= 21	Observation Days	= 0
Acute billable days	= 4		
Adult Day Care Visits	= 0	Deaths	= 1

**Physical Therapy**

August had a total:	123 Visits
Outpatient:	115
Acute Inpatient:	0
Swing bed:	0
LTC:	8

**Radiology:** We completed 20 CT scans in August

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