



STATEMENT

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STATEMENT REGARDING KLICKITAT COUNTY'S FIRST CORONAVIRUS DEATH

Skyline Health was notified this weekend that a Klickitat County patient seen in its Emergency Department earlier this month, perished from the COVID-19 coronavirus. This is the first Klickitat County fatality from COVID-19 per the media release from the Klickitat County Department of Emergency Management.

On the individual's first visit to Skyline Health's Emergency Department, the patient presented with mild symptoms of COVID-19, and therefore did not qualify for testing based on the Washington State Department of Health's COVID-19 guidelines. The individual was presumed to have COVID-19, even though a test was not done. Skyline Health's staff provided the appropriate care, which was to send the patient home with instructions to self-isolate and return to the Emergency Department if symptoms worsened.

Two days after the initial visit, the individual returned to Skyline's Emergency Department with progressed symptoms and tested positive for COVID-19 (after qualifying for testing following the Washington State Department of Health's guidelines). The patient was admitted to Skyline Health and then transferred to a larger Portland Hospital where the patient later died.

For both visits, Skyline Health Emergency Department properly followed all COVID-19 protocols, the staff utilized the proper personal protective equipment and appropriate patient care was given.

Skyline Health sends its thoughts, prayers and condolences to the patient's family and friends.

Skyline Health will not be providing additional information on this patient due to patient confidentiality.

For the latest COVID-19 coronavirus updates from Skyline Health, please visit myskylinehealth.org and/or follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/Skyline Hospital](https://facebook.com/SkylineHospital) or Instagram at Instagram.com/Skyline_Health.