



## **Caring for Our Patients and Our South TX Community During COVID – 19**

Esperanza Eating Disorders Center continues to use the highest levels of infection control and hand hygiene practices each day for your safety as well as for the safety of our team. During this time, we are even more vigilant, staying abreast of all notices and advisories. EEDC staff follows the infection prevention guidelines recommended by the CDC, and staff/patients are provided daily education on proper hygiene practices.

As a Behavioral Health Care Facility, we are here to serve the needs of our program patients, outpatient clients and their families. Patient and community safety is our priority and we continue to remain open.

**In order to reduce the risk of Coronavirus transmission, currently we have implemented the following:**

Twice daily the entire clinic is cleaned by disinfecting all frequently used surfaces, bathrooms and door handles. We have also removed magazines and manipulatives from lobby and offices.

We continue to implement the safety protocols that were put in place March 16, 2020.

Upon entering the Center, all will be required to:

- Wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer
- Temperature will be obtained
- Screening for symptoms, such as cough, sneezing, shortness of breath, will be performed
- Staff and patients are required to wear a mask at all times - with the exception for patients when eating meals and snacks
- Social distancing of staff and patients will be maintained
- If virus symptoms are exhibited, patients will be referred to their health care provider or minor emergency clinic

If you are unable or choose not to come into the Center, telehealth is provided as an option for our IOP and PHP patients. Outpatients are encouraged to coordinate with their individual therapist and sign an informed consent to telehealth. Outpatients will be offered tele-therapy with Zoom or another program which meets the required standard of confidentiality.

EEDC clinical staff is here to help patients stay connected and manage overwhelming anxiety and isolation associated with the pandemic, while also providing treatment for an eating disorder.

**We ask the following of you:**

If you have traveled to a highly infected area, have a fever, cough or shortness of breath or if you have been in contact with someone known to have COVID-19, please reschedule your appointment to protect yourself and our other patients.