

Bassett Healthcare Network announced today that Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown and Cobleskill Regional Hospital have been placed on a state-wide list of facilities that currently have occupancies of 90 percent or more. A.O. Fox Hospital and Little Falls Hospital remain on the list also. Impacted facilities across the state, including Bassett Medical Center, Cobleskill Regional Hospital, A.O. Fox Hospital, and Little Falls Hospital, are limiting non-essential elective procedures in accordance with an executive order enacted by the New York State Department of Health on Dec. 3.

The Department of Health continues to monitor hospital occupancies and may add additional facilities to the list if occupancies reach critical levels. Patients who may be affected by these changes are being notified directly by their practitioner's office. Urgent and emergency procedures, like trauma, cancer diagnostic, brain and heart surgeries, and other critical procedures will continue to be performed.

Capacities at affected hospitals are being reassessed every two weeks.

### **Bassett Will Suspend Visitation in its Emergency Departments Starting Wednesday, Dec. 22**

With rising cases of COVID-19 in the region, Bassett Healthcare Network will suspend visitation for the safety of patients and staff in all emergency departments across its network starting Wednesday, Dec. 22 – at A.O. Fox Hospital in Oneonta, A.O. Fox Hospital – Tri-Town Campus in Sidney, Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown, Cobleskill Regional Hospital, and O'Connor Hospital in Delhi.

Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Visit [www.bassett.org](http://www.bassett.org) for complete visitation guidelines.

The most important things people can do to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including the new Omicron variant, are:

- Get vaccinated as soon as possible, including a booster shot for those who are eligible – visit [www.bassett.org/covid-19](http://www.bassett.org/covid-19) for full eligibility criteria and a list of upcoming community clinics. The COVID-19 vaccine is free.
- Wear a mask in public.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and stay home when you are sick.

Visit [www.bassett.org](http://www.bassett.org) or follow Bassett Healthcare Network on Facebook for news updates, instructions for COVID-19 testing, vaccine clinic schedules, and other important information.