



April 2, 2021

Dear Fellow Employees,

We received updates to NYS's requirements for quarantine if you have been Vaccinated or COVID positive and recovered. In addition, NYS has also updated its travel guideline restrictions for those that travel within the US as well as those who travel internationally. I was hoping to be able to summarize these memorandums from the State, but there are too many pieces where summarization is difficult. Therefore, attached to today's update are the actual memorandums covering both topics and the positive is that you will be able to click on attachments referenced in the memorandums to read those because some items might need clarification. I hope you find this information helpful.

Please note the following:

1. COVID Update- I like sounding like a broken record on this update. We currently have 1 COVID positive inpatient and remain at 0 COVID positive ECF residents. We did 70 rapid tests yesterday and 3 were positive, all coming from our practices. A summary of our testing to date is that we have tested a total of 33,705, 31,663 negative, 1,952 positive with 9 pending and 85 inconclusive. We remain at 18 deaths since the start of the pandemic.
2. Vaccinations- The concern remains that a new surge is occurring nationally. With that in mind, please consider accepting the vaccine if you have not been vaccinated or haven't been COVID positive and recovered. In our area, the Moderna is the more prominent vaccine available, but the Pfizer vaccine has also been made available. Although Johnson & Johnson may also be available, you should read the literature regarding the effectiveness of each of the vaccines as the two shot Moderna and Pfizer vaccines provide much higher protection. For healthcare workers I think that is important. If you have any questions regarding the vaccine or want to discuss your concerns, please email anarrow@oneidahealthcare.org and we will arrange to have one of our providers respond to you. You are also encouraged to speak with your primary care provider regarding this matter. The Federal Government is instituting a campaign to promote vaccination amongst all Americans. I do understand that people have concerns or are anti-vaccine which is your right. For those of you that are just simply on the fence, those are the individuals I would like to see if we can provide you with enough information so that you are comfortable pursuing the vaccine.

I hope everyone was able to pick up their ham. This is another way to simply say thank you for all you have done for the many people we serve each day needing our care. Oneida Health Strong!

Please enjoy the weekend and Happy Easter.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

Gene F. Morreale