



December 14, 2020

Dear Fellow Employees,

I wanted to take a brief moment to follow up on my Saturday communication regarding elective procedures. I received good feedback from a number of our Medical Staff as well as Senior Leadership that we may be able to continue to provide elective surgery/endoscopy here and maintain our compliance to DOH criteria regarding surge capacity and surge readiness. Several teams are meeting and working on how this approach can be implemented. Once they finalize the plan, I will communicate to everyone. The goal remains to be safe in regards to the provision of care while also ensuring that necessary care for our community members is not delayed. We will also ensure adherence to DOH requirements as that remains our ongoing responsibility.

Please note the following:

1. COVID Positives- We currently have 13 COVID positive inpatients. We also have 18 COVID positive ECF residents. We performed rapid testing on all residents in the nursing home both Saturday and Sunday and the good news is that there were no additional positives identified as a result of that testing. We did receive 90 results from Quest and 5 were positive, all from our practices. We also performed a number of rapid tests in addition to those performed for the ECF residents and those showed 5 positive, 3 in the ED, 1 inpatient and 1 from the practices. The COVID positive numbers remain problematic and we will continue to test as we have adequate supply at this time of rapid test kits as well as PCR test kits.
2. Vaccination- We received some additional information from the DOH regarding the vaccine distribution. We are still awaiting word on which vaccine we will receive (Pfizer or Moderna). We have received some documents from the State including a vaccine consent form which I have attached to today's update. This form is to be used for all of our residents as well as staff who will consent to receiving the vaccine upon its delivery to us. As stated previously, Walgreens will be responsible for vaccinating our residents and staff in the ECF. Some 3 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine are being distributed throughout the country. Nursing home residents and staff are priority one. As more information becomes available I will be sure to communicate that to all of you. In the meantime, please take some time and review the COVID 19 Screening and Consent form as you will need to complete that prior to receiving the vaccine.
3. PPE- We are communicating with the DOH for both the ECF and the ACF that we believe we are in compliance with the required inventory of all PPE items. As a reminder, the ACF needs to have 90 days of PPE on hand and the ECF has to have 60 days. We are having calls with the DOH this afternoon to further discuss our current inventory to ensure that they agree that we are in compliance.

The information exchange between the Federal and State Governments with the providers is fast and furious. In particular, information regarding the vaccination program continues to arrive daily. We have set up two committees, one for the ECF and one for the ACF to review all of the material and to develop our vaccination response plan as appropriate. In addition, we are monitoring our bed capacity on a very regular basis to ensure that we have adequate beds to respond to the required 25% increase in surge capacity that the State has asked us to.

Please feel free to direct your questions or concerns to my attention. Please also keep up the great work you are doing for our residents and patients.

With Sincerest Appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene F. Morreale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Gene F. Morreale