



December 30, 2020

Dear Fellow Employees,

We have continued to perform vaccinations amongst the organizations employees and its Medical Staff. Next week we have our vaccination center set up to start vaccinating the providers in the region along with their office staff. These are individuals not employed through our organization but are direct patient care providers within our catchment area. Invitations to register and schedule an appointment will be sent out later this afternoon. The days that this will be offered are Tuesday and Wednesday at our testing center.

For employees and Medical Staff only, we have scheduled another vaccination clinic here in the hospital on Monday, January 4. This will be held in the Medical Library Conference Room on the 1st floor and will begin at 7am and end at 11am. I encourage all employees who would like to receive the Moderna vaccine to please make an effort to come that day to be vaccinated. No appointment is necessary.

For those employees and Medical Staff who went to Upstate to receive the Pfizer vaccine a few weeks ago, it is important that you notify the Infection Control Office that you have received that vaccine. We are currently working with Upstate and there is a good chance that they will release the second dose to us and we will be able to provide the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine here at the hospital rather than those individuals having to drive to Syracuse to receive it. Therefore, it is very important that you notify the Infection Control Office so we can request your second vaccine to be delivered here and administered to you here.

We are also talking to Madison County about joining forces soon to be able to start offering vaccinations to the general public. That cannot occur until the DOH provides us with sufficient numbers of vaccine and provides us with direction to offer that to the general public. As you can imagine, that will be a significant undertaking and joining forces with Madison County should provide us with additional support and person-power to successfully implement and make the program work to the benefit of our community members.

Please note the following:

1. COVID Positives- We currently have 11 COVID positive inpatients and remain at 7 COVID positive ECF residents. We performed 236 rapid tests yesterday with 34 of those being positive. We received 38 results from AEGIS, 2 of those were positive but were known positives. We are still waiting on results from AEGIS from the testing center which we should receive today. We remain at 14 hospital deaths since the start of the pandemic.
2. Masks- We are updating our mask policy for the practices as well as the ACF. The Infection Control Office will send those out shortly. The goal with the revision is to ensure adequate protection for all our staff while at the same time ensuring appropriate utilization of PPE by location as well as for those with direct patient care contact.

We have seen a little bit more stability in our patient volume over the last day and a half. Hoping that will continue through the holiday weekend. We have seen a significant shift in telemedicine visits for Quick Care and a number of our practices. No doubt that approach will continue for the foreseeable future which is ok.

I will keep you apprised of goings on with the vaccine program as well as any other issues presented by the State or Federal Government.

Thank you once again for all you do for our patients and residents.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene F. Morreale". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gene F. Morreale