



Oneida Health
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January 14, 2021

Dear Fellow Employees,

Some very good news in that we have received our allotment of second doses of the Moderna vaccine for those individuals who were initially vaccinated by Oneida Health. As a reminder, we will begin administering the second dose starting next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for individuals who received their first vaccination on December 23 or December 24. Your manager should have reached out to you to arrange for you to come down next week on one of those three days to receive your second dose. If not, please reach out to your manager to ensure that you are scheduled for the second dose administration.

Please note the following updates:

1. We have ordered more of the Moderna vaccine so that we can continue to vaccinate those individuals in class 1A and 1B as defined by the Health Department. We will also look to vaccinate individuals 65 years of age and older but that will be dependent upon the amount of vaccine we receive. The State has informed hospitals that their focus should be with individuals in the 1A and 1b categories. The pharmacies have been identified as the location for 65 and older individuals to receive the vaccination. Again, if we have sufficient vaccine we will also offer that opportunity here at our vaccine center.
2. Vaccinating Pregnant and Lactating Individuals- Under a separate email I will provide all of you a HANYS Member update that discusses the considerations for pregnant and lactating individuals. This is information that hopefully you can share with your friends and family who may be undecided in regards to their decision to receive the vaccine if pregnant or lactating. These are guidelines and obviously each individual needs to discuss this with their provider so that the provider can answer any questions they may have. The guidelines do provide recommendations for consideration.
3. COVID Update- We currently have 12 COVID positive inpatients and 3 COVID positive ECF residents. We performed 101 rapid tests yesterday with 15 positive. We received 8 PCR results with 2 positive, both already known to be positive. We currently have 128 PCR tests pending. We are now at 17 COVID deaths since the start of the pandemic.
4. PPE- I again will simply report that we remain in good health in regards to our current PPE inventory. Thank you again for using it appropriately. The important point is that you continue to use your PPE ensuring that you are wearing your mask properly, face shield when interacting with patients and washing your hands frequently. Protecting yourself is in your best interest and it also ensures that you don't become infected while in the work place which is very important.

The regional numbers on COVID have seen a slight decrease and the majority of the hospitals are doing well at this time in regards to their ability to manage the volume that they have. As a reminder, the post-holiday spike will not be seen until most probably the last week in January. We need to remain prepared for an increase in cases. Our surge plans remains intact and our Emergency Preparedness Operation will be called in the event that we have a significant spike in cases by month end.

Once again, Thank you all for your fine representation of Oneida Health during this very challenging time. We continue to be successful in all we do because of you.

With Sincerest Gratitude,



Gene F. Morreale