



Oneida Health
exceptional care... always

July 23, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

We remain as you are well aware in a national crisis due to the pandemic. In yesterday's Healthcare Association newsletter, they reviewed state and national news regarding what is happening in the healthcare arena. I thought I would share some of the titles of the articles included to give you a feel for what is being communicated throughout the state via HANYS. These headlines are as follows:

1. More than ½ of America is now on NY's quarantine list; 10 new states added Tuesday
2. The US Northeast, pummeled in the spring, now stands out in virus control
3. Trump, in shift,
4. endorses masks and says virus will get worse
5. US records 1,000 deaths in 1 day from COVID 19, California passes 400,000 cases
6. Coronavirus infections much higher than reported cases in parts of the US, studies show
7. The pandemic may very well last another year or more

From the above you understand that we are nowhere near a final resolution of this pandemic. To add to the fire so to speak is flu season is right around the corner. No simple solution to address where we are at other than continue doing what we are doing with the focus of protecting yourself, your co-workers and our patients and residents.

Please note the following:

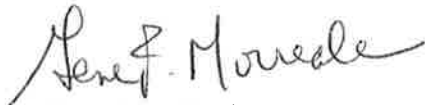
1. PPE- NYS has passed legislation requiring hospitals to maintain a 90 day supply of Personal Protective Equipment and nursing homes to maintain a 60 day supply of PPE. As I pointed out in Tuesday's update, that is very problematic to achieve due to the lack of supply versus the amount of demand for PPE. We are obligated to inform the State of our supply numbers as well as indicate how we plan on achieving the inventory amounts that are now established by regulation. We will continue to do our best to accomplish that and will keep you updated as we progress through the months ahead.
2. NYS Quarantine List- The following states have been added to the quarantine list effective Tuesday, July 21st: Alaska, Indiana, Delaware, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Virginia and Washington. States already on the list include: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Mexico, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin. Minnesota has been removed from the list.
3. COVID Testing Results- We have tested 6,388 individuals, 5,937 negative, 177 positive with currently 274 pending. We currently have 1 COVID positive inpatient. We received 60 results back from Quest and through our rapid testing program and 1 positive was identified in a physician community practice patient.

4. ECF- We are continuing to work on the Visitor Safety Plan for the ECF. We will most probably implement visitors under the plan in the ECF sometime in mid-August. A final date will be determined once the plan is complete and we have passed all the requirements of the State to open up to visitors. Our goal is to make this happen as soon as possible and do it as safely as possible to continue to protect all of our residents from being exposed to the COVID 19 virus.

We will continue to look at our strategies in providing care during this pandemic to ensure that we do it in an appropriate and safe way. Please do not hesitate to communicate any questions or concerns you may have as you are out there in the trenches, so to speak dealing with our patients and residents and want to make sure that you are comfortable with our approach.

Please keep up the excellent work that you are doing.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

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

Gene F. Morreale