



June 11, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

As you may have seen on the news last night, things are starting to open up in our area which was very evident with the casinos opening up and lines of people waiting to get in. We are close to going to Phase 3 of the 4 phase opening for our region. This will no doubt create much more exposure to individuals and therefore the potential for a surge in the virus as it has not completely vanished from our region. I am not saying this is a bad thing as we do need to open up our region for the benefit of the economy as well as our sanity.

With the above said, we need to maintain our focus here at work and ensure that we continue to do everything that we have developed to continue to make our facilities a safe environment for care protecting both our employees as well as those who come to us for care. This is all within your control and I respectfully request your due diligence in this area moving forward.

Please note the following updates:

1. Our business continues to have its ups and downs. Today in particular at the hospital is an up day with increased census as well as a busy day in in the operating room. The ECF occupancy rate is up to 88% from a low of 81% and budget of 95%. The practices continue to grow in-person visit volume which is great. The ED including Quick Care continue to go up and down but have not come close to meeting the budget expectations for 2020. Therefore, we need to continue our expense reduction initiatives until such time that we start providing services in line with our revenue budget expectations. I will continue to keep you posted on this as we go through the next several months. The bottom line is that there is improvement and this is something that we should be proud of and grateful for.
2. The NYS budget continues to be in disarray due to lack of revenue being generated in the state. The Governor has recently discussed steps that will be taken in Albany if no additional monies are received from the Federal Government to offset the current state budget deficit. As I have stated in previous updates, he has talked about a 20-30% reduction in Medicaid spending which is basically our reimbursement. If those cuts are implemented, it will be devastating for all healthcare providers in the state. All we can hope for now is that the Federal Government will come to the rescue of NYS with its financial difficulties.
3. Our PPE inventory remains in good shape. As I communicated last week, we did receive some alternate 3M N95 masks which has definitely helped as those masks were the small size that we have been unable to secure. We do have orders out for over 12,000 N95 masks and our Purchasing Department continues to go after those vendors to deliver. We have been told that at the end of June we are eligible for some type of delivery of N95 mask. In the meantime, we will do all we can to secure PPE.

4. The following is a summary of our day by day testing of individuals for COVID 19:

On Tuesday June 9 we tested 3197 individuals, 2908 negative, 148 positive with 141 pending. We received 61 results back on this date as follows: Elective Procedure testing 33/0, Inpatient 12/0, ED 2/0, Practices 13/1, ECF 0/0. On this date we still had 0 positive inpatients and 0 ECF positive residents.


On Wednesday June 10 we tested 3239 individuals, 3019 negative, 148 positive, with 72 pending. We received 111 results on this date as follows: Elective Procedures 7/0, Inpatient 4/0, ED 3/0, Practices 0/0, ECF 97/0. On this date we continue to have 0 positive inpatients and 0 positive ECF residents and staff.

As of today we have tested 3257 individuals, 3082 negative, 148 positive with 27 pending results. We received 63 results back as follows: Elective Procedures 9/0, Inpatient testing 10/0, ED 2/0, Practices 17/0 and ECF staff 25/0. There remains 0 positive inpatients and 0 positive ECF residents and staff.

5. Antibody testing in-house is now available. A memo from our Laboratory Director and Supervisor is being crafted and will be sent out to members of the Medical Staff no later than tomorrow. That correspondence explains the test that we will have available onsite, how to order it for patients as well as when we will offer the testing and results. This is exciting news and we look forward to offering this testing to those who require it.
6. Rapid testing is now available in house. This test can be resulted in approximately 30 minutes. We have a very limited supply of the testing cartridges at this time, so it will be used for specific emergent situations. Guidelines for who is eligible for this testing are being developed and we will implement that rapid testing starting this afternoon.

I will close today's update with my continued appreciation to all of you for helping us to continue on our path to recovery. I believe the next several months will be key to our success financially and look forward to working with you to accomplish that.

With Sincerest Gratitude,



Gene F. Morreale
President and CEO