



March 9, 2021

Dear Fellow Employees,

I am pleased to report that we have administered all of the initial doses of vaccine provided this organization. Significant effort on the part of many within our practice network as well as a number of departments within the hospital setting and ECF participated in the process to identify eligible candidates to be vaccinated. We do not believe that we will be provided with additional first dose vaccine at this time. Rather, we will be working with the County Health Departments to administer vaccine to new admissions to the ECF as well as newly hired employees who wish to receive the vaccine.

Please note the following:

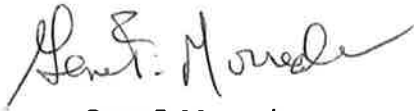
1. COVID Positives- We currently have 2 COVID positive inpatients and remain COVID free at the ECF. We have been doing a good number of tests each day ranging from 100-140. We continue to see positives each day, but not to the extent that we saw earlier on. For example, yesterday we received 134 test results and 5 were positive. The message remains that COVID is still within our community settings and our continued vigilance to protect ourselves, our co-workers, and our patients and residents is still very important.
2. CDC Guidelines- You may have read that the CDC is issuing new guidelines regarding fully vaccinated individuals and what PPE and what restrictions they should follow. The State has not at this time adopted any of those guidelines for the health care setting, but we have been informed that they are studying them and will soon be providing guidance. So in the meantime, whether you have been vaccinated or not, all PPE requirements remain in place while at work.
3. Oneida Towers- We are participating with a number of community agencies in performing a vaccine clinic for residents of the Towers buildings in downtown Oneida. We are required to do an annual emergency preparedness full scale exercise with community partners per Joint Commission and federal regulations during the month of March. This full scale exercise which includes a vaccine administration program will include EMS, Madison County Health Department, Madison County Emergency Preparedness, Oneida Police, Office of the Aging and Oneida Health. This is a coordinated exercise that helps us prepare in the event that we need to activate our emergency preparedness plan in the future due to some type of community emergency. We do need several volunteers to help with the exercise on Friday March 12, between the hours of 9-4. Individuals that can help document the vaccine administration and perform other paperwork is what is needed. If you are available to help out during the day on Friday, please notify Andrea Narrow at [anarrow@oneidahealthcare.org](mailto:anarrow@oneidahealthcare.org) of your willingness to help.
4. Café- We are easing restrictions on the use of our café for visitors. As long as that visitor has gone through the screening process and is here to receive services or is a visitor for a patient,

they will be allowed to utilize the café. Social distancing and mask wearing while up and about remains a requirement for all.

It is starting to feel like spring with weather projected to be in the 50's and 60's over the next several days. Hopefully many of you will be able to get out and enjoy this spring like weather.

Thank you so much for your continued great work and caring.

With Sincerest Gratitude

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

Gene F. Morreale