



Oneida Health
exceptional care... always

May 18, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

We are slowly seeing a ramp up in our business, albeit, not anything that resembles pre-COVID numbers. For example, this past week the ED has seen an average of 48 patients per day compared to a budgeted number of 65 patients per day. The 48 average is good as we were seeing patient numbers in the 20's and 30's during the height of the pandemic. The practices which represent much of our downstream care (i.e. surgery, imaging, lab, etc) are still functioning well below budgeted expectations. The telemedicine and phone visits continue to help us stay in touch with our patients, especially those with chronic care conditions.

It appears that the month of June will be a good barometer for what business will be like for us moving forward. With so many of our community members out of work, it is almost impossible for them to think of healthcare services unless there is no choice because of acuity or new onset illness. With our region opening up soon, the hope is that a good number of the furloughed will be called back to work and then healthcare services will be a more realistic outcome of that. As we resume providing services within our network, we too will be in a position to call our furloughed staff back to work. Currently, the call back of our staff has occurred in certain positions where the demand has risen allowing us to bring staff back.

Please note the following updates:

1. Walmart in Oneida and Quest Laboratory announced the opening of a drive through area for COVID testing. Opening is scheduled for May 22nd and the site is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:00am-9:00am, weather permitting. Individuals must be 18 years old or older, fill out an appointment request providing information of symptoms of COVID-19, or be in a high risk group without symptoms, or be a first responder or a health care worker. It is a self-administered nasal swab test observed by a trained medical volunteer.
2. Today, the Health Department provided us with a number of testing kits and other PPE supplies to use as we test our employees in the ECF. The cost of the testing will be covered by our Excellus Health insurance at this time. We operate a self-insured health insurance program so we are paying for that testing. Those without insurance, we will look to get it paid for through Federal COVID-19 funds.
3. We have tested 1607 individuals, 1457 negative, 139 positive and 11 pending results. We received 126 results back yesterday as follows: Elective Surgery 92/0 positive, Inpatient 6/0 positive, ED 5/0 positive and Practices 21/2 positive. We currently have 0 positive inpatients with 3 inpatients pending.

That is all for now. Thank you and please continue with the great work you do for our patients and residents.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gene F. Morreale", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gene F. Morreale
President and CEO