



May 19, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

We are another day closer to what hopefully will be the end of this crisis. As an organization, we have done relatively well considering what we are up against. Our staff have come to work each day and have been provided with the tools needed to do their work. As a result, we have had a very good record of not having staff become infected due to lack of or inappropriate use of PPE. Likewise, our patients and residents have received very good care and services at every location within our network. Every once in a while, I have to remind myself of how well we have done to date. So taking this opportunity to remind each of you of that fact while once again thanking you for your extraordinary performance during this crisis.

Please note the following updates:

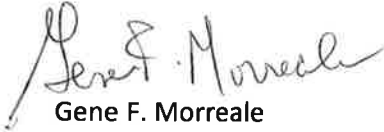
1. Yesterday I received a comment and a question from a staff member which I will respond to now. The reference in the email was concerning a 90 day stock pile of PPE. That 90 day requirement was an idea discussed at the State level, but has not been promulgated yet. We are building our inventory for the future, in the event of a second wave or when the virus hits again next flu season. No way are we stock piling PPE and not issuing items to staff as a result. Rather, we are using any inventory items we have now based upon needs of our staff. What we are doing is re-ordering from our main suppliers as much PPE as we can and looking for new suppliers that may be able to meet our needs. We have had reasonably good success other than in buying and receiving American made N95 masks. Of particular concern is the small size N95 where our inventory of that size mask is depleting with no idea of when we will receive more. With that said, please help by re-processing your N95 mask at least twice. We have changed up the re-processing system with the goal of reducing the negatives staff have told us about when wearing their own re-processed mask. Again, please work with us on this and keep us informed, through your manager, of any negatives you encounter with re-processed N95 masks.
2. High Touch Area Cleaning remains our strong point and we need to continue this. Attached to this email is a cleaning matrix listing the areas to disinfect as well as a box to check off that it was completed. This was put together to ensure we are all approaching the high touch cleaning in a similar way. There is room to document that you or your co-worker has completed these tasks throughout the day and week. Your manager is asked to roll this out to each of you so that your work area is cleaned appropriately. This, I am convinced, together with the other sensible guidelines (hand washing, face masks, hands away from face) will keep us safe, not only during this pandemic, but throughout the year. Who wants a summer cold? The flu? So please, lets make this part of our organizations safe care, safe work place approach.
3. We have tested 1658 individuals, 1457 negative, 139 positive with 62 pending. For some reason, we did not receive any new results back from Quest Laboratories. I hope tonight we will receive

a good number back. We currently have 0 positive inpatients with 13 pending their results. As a reminder, all patients admitted to the hospital and all patients presenting for elective surgery/endoscopy are automatically tested.

4. I mentioned in yesterday's update that the Walmart drive through center will be operational starting Friday. I would not recommend that you use that process as I remain concerned with the high percentage of false negatives generated by the person doing their own swab for the test. If you feel the need to be tested, please reach out to your primary care provider, to Quick Care or the Employee Health Office. They can generate an order for testing if you should require testing according to today's testing guidelines.
5. The ECF employee COVID testing will begin on Wednesday. Our goal is to test as many of our staff as possible on this day. Those not readily available will be scheduled over the next day or two. Each employee will register in our Meditech patient portal so that results can be delivered to them through that process once the result is back. Testing results should be back within 48 hours. The hope is the surge in testing due to all nursing home/adult care employees in the state being tested, won't delay testing turn-around time. We shall see.

Thank you all again for taking the time to read these updates as well as for the safe services you are providing our patients and each other.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene F. Morreale". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "M".

Gene F. Morreale  
President and CEO