



Oneida Health
exceptional care... always

October 8, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

I have attached a link to this email that will take you to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention fact sheet regarding Coronavirus. Although there may not be a lot of new information on this link, it serves as a great reminder of what we are up against with the pandemic and the COVID virus. Within this link you can connect to other links for more detailed information. What I like most about the link titled "How COVID 19 Spreads" is the section related to protecting yourself and others. The steps mentioned in the article are the following:

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others whenever possible
- Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others
- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Avoid crowded indoor spaces and ensure indoor spaces are properly ventilated
- Stay home and isolate from others when sick
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces

There are many other pieces of information in this link so please take a few moments to review it and share it with friends and family. As noted in the fifth bullet above, if you are not feeling well, please notify the Employee Health office and do not come to work. This virus spreads so easily that we need to take all necessary precautions to protect our co-workers, patients and residents.

Please note the following:

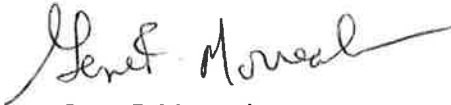
1. PPE- Most of the KN95 masks have been received and will be distributed over the next several days. We continue to do well with ear loop masks. Our struggle remains with small size N95 masks.
2. 3 People Signage- We have developed some signage to be placed on tables where staff congregate. For example, in the café. We need to continue to social distance and the signage reminds people that only 3 people per table are permitted. As you are eating lunch, you obviously are not wearing your mask and droplets are entering the air when you speak, laugh, etc. Therefore, maintaining social distancing around the lunch table, for example, is very important.
3. COVID 19 Testing Results- We have received 25 rapid test results back overnight and 18 results from Quest, all negative. We have tested 12,219 individuals, 11,818 negative, 213 positive with 182 pending. The majority of the pending are from testing done on ECF staff whose testing must be sent to Quest. The news remains very good in regards to continuing with negative results. As I mentioned Tuesday, we are seeing an increase in referrals for testing from our practices. That indicates that there are more people who are ill that are concerned or their provider may be concerned that they may have COVID.

4. Testing Center- The testing center has been very busy and what complicates the day is the lack of information on the order forms. As a reminder to our practices, Medent has an order form on the system that once completed can be automatically sent to the testing center. Please utilize that form and complete all required areas. We are developing some additional technology that will allow practices not on the Medent system to submit their orders electronically. We are also looking at technology that will allow patients to schedule their testing online. The goal is to make this process more efficient so that we are able to meet the demand and do it without adding more staff.

As a reminder, you are still able to get a flu shot. Please contact the Employee Health office to arrange for that.

Thank you again for your continued attention to my daily updates. Feel free to direct any questions you have to me at any time.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene F. Morreale". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Gene F. Morreale