

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Oneida Health Visitor Restrictions

Oneida, NY – Effective immediately, Oneida Health will be limiting visitation to the Hospital and restricting any visitors to the Extended Care Facility until further notice.

The Oneida Health Hospital will be limiting visitor hours from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm in an effort to reduce exposure to the COVID-19 (Corona Virus) and the spread of Influenza to patients and staff. “The safety of our patients and staff is always our top priority,” said President and CEO Gene Morreale. “While there has not been any confirmed cases of the Corona Virus in CNY, with the recent reports and high rate of influenza occurring, we are confident that these measures will support our efforts to provide the highest level of care during this time.” In addition to these restrictions, the hospital also request any one coming to visit who may be suffering from a respiratory illness, to refrain from visiting.

In addition to the hospital, the Oneida Health Rehabilitation and Extended Care will not be allowing any visitors until further notice due to some recent cases of influenza with residents and staff. “We do not take the decision to restrict visitors from seeing their loved ones lightly,” said Morreale. “We have had several cases of the flu among our residents and staff recently, which is not uncommon during this time of year, but requires us to take immediate precautions to limit its impact on the health and safety of our residents and staff.” He noted that the restriction on visitors would only be temporary until the spread of influenza is resolved.

When asked about the Corona Virus, Morreale said, “We are working closely with the New York State Department of Health and the Madison County Department of Health to monitor COVID-19 trends, guidance on best practices and suggested measures to treat patients who may have symptoms related to the Corona virus. Be confident, though COVID-19 (Corona virus) is new, our health team is experienced and receives training for instances similar to this one on an ongoing basis. It's what we are here to do.”

For more information about the COVID-19 (Corona virus) Oneida Health encourages individuals to visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website for the most up to date information.

About Oneida Health

Oneida Health serves an area comprised of approximately 29 communities in Madison and western Oneida counties with a population of approximately 100,000. Operated by Oneida Health Systems, Inc, a New York State not-for-profit corporation, the organization includes a 101-bed acute care hospital, emergency department, state of the art surgery center, 160-bed extended-care and short-term rehab facility, primary care offices, internal medicine, comprehensive lab services, home

medical equipment, comprehensive imaging services, outpatient therapy, and care specialties in: oncology, neurology, podiatry, vascular, sleep, OB/GYN, orthopedics, wound care, GI, and ENT. To learn more about Oneida Health, visit www.oneidahealth.org.

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