



September 10, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

It is again with pleasure that I report that there is not a lot going on in regards to COVID and its impact on our daily operations. Of course we continue to deal with PPE, regulated COVID testing of employees as well as regulated COVID testing of elective procedure patients which no doubt does impact operations. My point is that we are not being overrun with positive COVID patients who require significant care from our organization. The hope is that the reduced COVID positive infection results continues and with the use of masks and hand sanitizing practiced by all, that this flu season will also not negatively impact our operations as well as our community members.

Please note the following:

1. PPE- After reviewing all of our PPE inventory versus the 90 day requirement, the only area of weakness is the blue nitrile gloves. We currently have approximately 200,000 gloves in inventory and to meet the 90 day threshold, we need to add another 350,000 gloves to our inventory. The issues are storage of that many boxes of gloves as well as ensuring the proper conditions so that the gloves do not become non-usable due to exposure to heat or cold. Other than that, we are in relatively good shape with the majority of other PPE and are continuing to work on securing ongoing flow of PPE to replace those that we use day to day. I once again ask that you please ensure that you wear your PPE as designated by organizational policy and CDC guidelines and also that you help us as best you can to conserve this very valuable supply.
2. Hand Sanitizer- We continue to search for a hand sanitizer product to replace the one we currently use that remains in short supply. Purchasing has identified another product but that would result in our having to replace all of our wall mounted units with a new unit. We prefer not to have to do that due to the amount of effort required to complete that project. We will continue to do our best to secure the necessary alcohol based hand sanitizer. In the meantime, we are using the new product on a stand unit which is not ideal.
3. Testing Circle- With winter weather approaching over the next several months, it requires us to relocate our testing circle from the front of the hospital to a new location. We have identified the now vacated Business Office building on campus as the new place to direct those requiring testing to. This will allow us to move the testing indoors and away from the circle which is not a bad thing. A team is currently working on developing the process to ensure a smooth transition to the new location. More to come on start date as well as directions that will be available for community members who need to access the testing program.
4. COVID Results- The good news is that we have had 0 positives of late. We have tested 10,127 individuals, 9,862 negative with 211 positive and we only have 49 pending results. We remain at 3 hospital deaths and no ECF residents have been COVID positive. We received 134 results yesterday the majority being our ECF staff and residents and all were negative. We have 0

COVID positive inpatients at this time. The turn-around time from Quest has improved significantly of late which allows us to get the PCR testing that we send to them back within a reasonable time. Rapid tests are still available for certain patient types.

Considering we are still in a pandemic that is impacting different parts of our country in a much bigger way than here, we are continuing to perform as an organization very, very well. Please be a spokesperson for our organization and ensure that your family and friends know that things are well under control in regards to COVID and that we are a safe place for healthcare. In that regard, please continue doing what you are doing to maintain the safety that we have experienced.

With Sincerest Gratitude,



Gene F. Morreale