



**Oneida Health**  
*exceptional care... always*

September 8, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

I hope you had a wonderful Labor Day weekend. For those of you who worked over this holiday weekend, please accept my thanks for being here and serving our patients and residents. We remain a 24/7/365 operation meaning that many of our staff are working weekends and holidays throughout the year. Please understand that your efforts are recognized and truly appreciated.

Please note the following:

1. PPE- We continue to secure valuable supplies of PPE which helps us continue to build our inventory. This is important in the event that we have a difficult flu season or an increase in COVID cases due to more openings including our schools. We will continue to do our best to secure PPE to ensure that we have an adequate supply for whatever comes our way.
2. COVID 19 Results- We did have 2 positive COVID results come back over the weekend for patients seen in our practices. The ED continues with 0 COVID positive patients for the past 18 days. The ECF has also continued with no COVID positive residents. We are testing all staff again today as required by state regulation. Our total number through September 7 is 9,926 individuals tested. 9,681 negative, 211 positive and we remain at 3 hospital deaths. There are 29 tests pending. We currently have 0 COVID positive inpatients.
3. Flu versus COVID 19- The state has issued regulations governing testing effective September 1. One such requirement is "any patient who is known to have been exposed to COVID 19 or influenza or has symptoms consistent with COVID 19 or influenza shall be tested for both such diseases." Although we have not been made aware of any positive flu cases in our region at this time, this time of year is when we will start seeing them and should be aware of this new regulation promulgated by the DOH.

The above represents all that I need to share with you as of today's date. I will continue to keep you informed regarding what is happening within the organization as well as what the State and Federal Governments along with the CDC have planned for the upcoming flu season.

Thank you again for those who worked over this past holiday weekend.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

Gene F. Morreale