



Oneida Health
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June 25, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

Governor Cuomo has issued Executive Order 205 which is a travel advisory requiring all travelers coming from states with significant rates of transmission of COVID 19 to quarantine for a 14 day period from the time of their last contact with such designated state. The travel advisory is effective at 12:01am on Thursday June 25, 2020. If you have traveled from within one of the designated states with significant community spread, you must quarantine when you enter NY for 14 days from the last travel within such designated state, provided on the date you enter into NYS that such state met the criteria for requiring such quarantine. The requirements for the travel advisory does not apply to an individual passing through designated states for a limited duration (i.e. less than 24 hours) through the course of travel.

The following are the states that are currently on the travel advisory list:

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Arizona
- Florida
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Utah

The state has advised that they will continue to monitor all states and states can be added or removed from the list based upon the criteria that the state is using to determine if they are a potential high COVID 19 infection exposure state.

As you know, healthcare workers are considered essential workers but even so, we are expected to comply with NYS DOH guidance regarding returning to work after suspected or confirmed exposure to COVID 19 or after an essential worker had close or approximate contact with a person with COVID 19. The NYS DOH considers a close contact to be someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 10 minutes starting from 48 hours before illness onset until the time the person was isolated.

We are expecting to receive additional guidance from the DOH regarding the impact of this requirement on healthcare workers. Until that time, we are adopting the following approach:

- The person traveling to one of the identified states will be assumed to have been exposed. The exposed, asymptomatic employee may return to work so long as the employee adheres to the following practices prior to and during their work shift, which will be monitored by your manager:
 - 1) For ACF and outpatient practice staff, call the Employee Health office upon your return to schedule a rapid COVID test. For ECF employees, notify your manager or supervisor and upon your returning to work, you will be tested utilizing the rapid test. A positive

result will mean that you must immediately leave work and will be guided through the process by the health office moving forward.

- 2) You must present yourself for a second rapid test after 5 days has lapsed since your first test. The 5 days is the normal incubation period for COVID and if you remain asymptomatic, a second test is required. If you become symptomatic even after testing negative from the first rapid test, you should immediately leave work or not come to work until cleared by the health office.
- 3) Regular monitoring- The employee must self-monitor for a temperature greater than or equal to 100 degrees Fahrenheit every 12 hours and monitor symptoms consistent with COVID 19.
- 4) Wear a mask- The employee must wear a mask at all times while in the work place for 14 days after last exposure. Note, healthcare providers are required to wear a mask continuously while at work so the 14 days is not an end point to wearing a mask.
- 5) Social Distance- The employee must continue social distancing practices including maintaining at least 6 feet of distance from others.
- 6) Clean and Disinfect Work Spaces- The employer and our employees must continue to regularly clean and disinfect all areas ensuring they are free from spread of infection.
- 7) Maintain quarantine- The employee must continue to self-quarantine and self-monitor for temperature and symptoms when not at the work place for 14 days after last exposure/travel.

Due to the above requirements, I strongly discourage you from traveling to one of these states until such time as they are removed from the list by NYS. If you must go, it is imperative that you follow these guidelines to avoid exposing your fellow co-workers as well as our patients and residents to the virus. This is a big responsibility on your part and I ask that you abide by it.

As further information is provided to us about healthcare workers and the impact of this travel restriction and quarantine, I will immediately communicate that to you. In the meantime, feel free to direct your questions to Andrea Narrow at anarrow@oneidahealthcare.org or the Employee Health office.

With Sincerest Gratitude,



Gene F. Morreale