

## COVID-19 Health System Updates

April 30, 2020, Thursday

Day over day, and week over week, our inpatient COVID-19 census continues to drop. We are now at about half of the volume compared with our peak. And yesterday, we had the lowest number of patient deaths due to COVID-19 in more than a month. We continue to meet with success in sourcing the PPE that you need, and our staffing ratios are significantly improved as well.

As of yesterday afternoon, we had 1,047 COVID-19-positive patients in our hospitals (a 5 percent drop from the prior day). That included 288 patients in our ICUs. We had another 169 inpatients under investigation (PUIs).

### **NIH clinical trial shows Remdesivir speeds recovery from advanced COVID-19**

Yesterday, the world received some encouraging news. For the first time, a drug was found to positively impact the clinical course of COVID-19 infection. You can read more about this [here](#). That news — along with recent articles highlighting the faster pace of vaccine development, [here](#) and [here](#) — gives us hope of brighter days ahead.

### **Meet Our COVID-19 Scientists**

A team led by Benjamin tenOever, PhD, has found that the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which leads to COVID-19, behaves very differently from the flu and other respiratory viruses. It appears to enter cells quietly, eliciting a low-powered immune response that tends to fester. The preliminary findings suggest that the stealth nature of SARS-CoV2 may explain the clinical findings that are typical of the COVID-19 infection course. Read more about the research [here](#).

### **Songs for Mount Sinai**

I shared this yesterday, but in case you missed it, each week a group of Broadway actors, singers, and other performers come together to support us with a video playlist titled “Songs for Mount Sinai.” It is at turns inspiring, and funny, and heartwarming, and I hope you will take a few minutes to watch and share with others. You can see it [here](#).

### **Final Thought**

I just received this note and picture from Evan Flatow, MD, President of Mount Sinai West. Their 500<sup>th</sup> successful COVID-19 patient discharge was also the first patient that our Health System admitted when this pandemic arrived on our shores. To date, the Mount Sinai family has saved more than 4,000 precious human lives. God bless you all.

*“This was our first COVID-19 patient at West, admitted March 7 and discharged yesterday. I believe it was the first case for the System. He caught this in Spain from an asymptomatic friend then came to New York via his home in Chile, and got sick.*

*He was our first patient on Remdesivir (compassionate use). The ICU team came to the lobby to see him off.”*



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