

COVID-19 Health System Updates, June 16





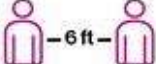


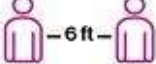




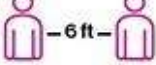





June 16, 2021 Wednesday

Our region passed an important milestone yesterday when Governor Cuomo announced that more than 70 percent of New York adults have now received at least their first dose of vaccine. He said the state was lifting most COVID-19-related restrictions on restaurants, bars, and other commercial businesses.

Here at Mount Sinai, nothing much changes as a result of the governor's announcement. The state rules for health care institutions are still in effect, and we all still need to wear masks in clinical and other areas where patients may be present.

But as you already know, some big changes are coming this Monday, June 21, for people with vaccine stickers on their ID badges. More than 15,000 of you have registered for the stickers already, and thousands more are about to. You will get to do a number of things that I know many of you have been wanting to do for a long time:

As of June 21, 2021

	Vaccinated	Unvaccinated
DO YOU HAVE TO WEAR A MASK?		
In clinical/public spaces where patients may be present	 Mask required	 Mask required
In office suites (including 42nd Street)	 No mask required	  Mask and distancing required
Break rooms	 No mask required	  Mask and distancing required
Private office (alone)	 No mask required	 No mask required
Cubicle	 No mask required	  Mask and distancing required
At meetings in conference rooms	 No mask required	 Must attend virtually
Food and drink at meetings	  No mask required	 Must attend virtually

Additional details on the policies are available [here](#). Please know that if you do prefer to wear a mask and socially distance even after you're vaccinated, you're welcome to keep doing that.

If you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 but haven't registered for your sticker yet, you can do so [here](#). If you prefer to register in person, keep an eye out for local announcements; many of our sites will have walk-in registration starting later this week. For this option, you will need to bring your proof of vaccination (CDC card or Excelsior Pass) with you, whether you were vaccinated at Mount Sinai or elsewhere.

If you're a manager or supervisor, please make sure your teams know how to register for their stickers. You can print out the attached flyer and post it or hand it out. A printable version of the table above is also attached.

As of this morning, we had 23 COVID-19-positive inpatients across the system, six of whom were in critical care. The case numbers we've been seeing lately are lower than they've been in nine months. The New York State seven-day average test positivity rates as of yesterday were 0.4 percent for New York City, Long Island, and the mid-Hudson region.

With cases down and vaccinations up, we are beginning to welcome volunteers back to our campuses. Details are in the [new volunteer policy](#) on the internet.

You only have 10 days left to fill out the [Your Voice Counts survey](#), our confidential, system-wide employee engagement survey. The more people we hear from, the better we can make Mount Sinai. Please fill it out today, and remind your teams as well.

I want to end on this thought: While our state, city, and region are reopening and COVID-19 cases are dropping to new lows, the virus is still out there. Fortunately, the vaccines seem to work against the new variants we're seeing. But if you're not vaccinated, you're exposed to what is now a much more contagious disease than it used to be.

Please don't take the risk. Help keep your patients, your families and friends, your coworkers, and yourselves safe by [making a vaccine appointment](#) today or walking into any of our pods. On behalf of everyone who wears the Mount Sinai badge, thank you.

Vicki R. LoPachin, MD, MBA

Senior Vice President

Chief Medical Officer

Mount Sinai Health System