COVID-19 Health System Updates

May 20, 2020 Wednesday

This week is the 46th annual National EMS Week. EMS Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line." EMS providers around the country, and especially in New York, responded to record 911 call volumes during the COVID-19 pandemic—at the peak, New York City’s 911 system, the nation’s busiest, handled more than 6,000 calls a day, 50 percent more than the normal daily average.

Mount Sinai Emergency Medical Services provides 911 service to New York City with 19 ambulances and more than 200 providers. During COVID-19, the service increased the number of ambulances providing care, and quickly adapted to rapidly changing protocols, coordinating with the Health System to maintain the highest-quality care and safety for our patients and staff. We recognize all of our EMS providers for their dedicated, compassionate, and heroic service not only during the pandemic but every day.

As of yesterday afternoon, we had 401 COVID-19-positive patients in our hospitals. That included 98 patients in our ICUs. We had another 143 inpatients under investigation (PUIs).

Our health system COVID-19 modeling group shared this graph of daily COVID-19 admissions to our hospitals:

**Upcoming Safety Webinar**
On Thursday, May 21, at 4 pm, Bernard Camins, MD, will join me for a videocast on safety. Dr. Camins, our System Medical Director for Infection Prevention, and
I will explain to our patients what we’re doing to keep them safe—before and during their visit, both visibly and behind the scenes. We know that many patients are afraid to come to the hospital right now even for care they urgently need. We hope to show them all the steps we’re taking to take care of them, and put those fears to rest. You can tune in to the videocast here.

**Meet Our COVID-19 Clinician-Scientists**
Mount Sinai physicians recognized a disturbing trend in increasing numbers of young patients presenting with large-vessel strokes. This raised an alert among our stroke team, because the patients were all in their 30s or 40s, lacked many traditional risk factors, and were COVID-19-positive. These surprising observations were documented in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Johanna Fifi, MD, J Mocco, MD, MS, and Thomas Oxley, MD, PhD. The team made another timely observation: stroke patients appear to be delaying emergency care because of fear of COVID-19. Read more here.

**Parking Update**
Complimentary systemwide parking has been extended to Sunday, May 31. All standard fees for parking will resume on Monday, June 1. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Parking Services at parkingservices@mountsinai.org.

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