

# Travel to High-Risk States

June 29, 2020, Monday

Last week, the governors of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut announced that travelers from states with significant community spread of COVID-19 would be required to quarantine for 14 days upon their arrival in the tri-state area. Mount Sinai Health System has updated its travel policies accordingly:

## Personal Travel:

- Personal travel outside New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania requires notification of, but not approval from, your supervisor.
- Employees returning from a high-risk area should test for SARS-CoV-2 within 24 hours of their return to ensure that they are not positive, and may be allowed to return to work without a quarantine if they test negative for SARS-CoV-2. You must schedule your time off to allow for the test and the results to come back before your return to work. Staff who test positive for SARS-CoV-2 must use PTO or other available leave time to cover their mandatory home isolation period.
- Employees who left for personal travel to a hot spot before quarantine restrictions were put in place are asked to get tested for SARS-CoV-2 within 24 hours of their return. Since these staff left before the New York executive order was issued, they will not be charged leave time for the test results to return. However, staff who test positive for SARS-CoV-2 must use PTO or other available leave time to cover their mandatory isolation period.

## Work Travel:

- As a reminder, all work-related international and domestic travel is only permissible for essential purposes (e.g. annual conferences are unlikely to be essential). In these very limited and specific circumstances, the Department Chair or supervisor must approve. Additional approval is also required from Vicki R. LoPachin, MD, MBA, Chief Medical Officer for the Mount Sinai Health System, who will work with an appropriate committee of hospital and school leadership to review the request based on safety and need.

These rules and procedures are in addition to the travel policy changes announced on Friday, June 5. Please review the entire travel policy, which can be found [here](#), before planning your trip. More information on the mandatory quarantines can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your cooperation and please stay safe when you travel.

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