

COVID-19 Health System Updates

March 21 2020, Saturday

New York now represents approximately half of all COVID-19-positive cases nationwide. To better slow the rate of transmission, yesterday Governor Cuomo signed an executive order requiring, by 8 pm tomorrow, the closure of all nonessential businesses statewide.

This order excludes health care facilities and does not affect our health system. All Mount Sinai employees and voluntary and affiliated doctors and medical practices are deemed essential workers.

Here in our own health system it is All Hands on Deck.

Every single person, in every corner of our organization, has a role to play at this critical moment in the fight against COVID-19. That's why today's update is so important.

All Hands on Deck Sign-ups

If you are not already fully engaged in COVID-19 response, please click on [this link](#) to learn how you can help and to provide us with information that will enable us to identify a vital role for you in this work. This is a mission-critical step in our ability to save as many lives as possible.

Day Care and NYCDOE Regional Enrichment Center Enrollment

For those staff who require care for their children and live in the five boroughs, the NYC Department of Education will open Regional Enrichment Centers and early childhood centers starting on Monday, March 23rd from 7:30am to 6:00pm, Monday-Friday. Regional Enrichment Centers are only open to children whose parents or guardians are in essential fields – like health care and emergency services – and children who are enrolled can attend anytime during open hours. You can enroll your children by clicking [here](#).

Employee Health Services Update

Mount Sinai Health System employees who are ill, are concerned about COVID-19 exposure, or who need clearance to return to work can contact [Employee Health Services](#) this weekend for telephonic consults. This service is available between 7:30 am and 7:30 pm on Saturday, March 21, and Sunday, March 22. If you have COVID-19 related questions about your health, please call 212-844-1100 for a consultation. Physicians will be on hand for a symptom check and advice on next steps.

Keeping Your Mount Sinai ID Badge With You at All Times

As New York's social distancing efforts continue and with nonessential businesses closing on Sunday, it is important that you keep your Mount Sinai ID badge with you at all times. It demonstrates that you are in an essential function to the city at a time when nonessential organizations are closing and the public is largely expected to remain at home. Having your ID badge with you may be needed to ease your movement within the region and within our Health System.

I want to end on this note. There are so many questions that you must have right now. We have many answers up on the [employee resource website](#). And we will be adding much, much more in the coming days. We get asked a lot about how we will help people who are redeployed into new roles know how to work in those new roles. That is a big focus of our own efforts right now – making sure that everyone will be ready for what we ask of them.