

# The Governor's Announcement on COVID-19

March 09 2020, Monday

Earlier today, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo declared a State of Emergency in New York State to help limit any further spread of COVID-19. This declaration should not cause alarm. Rather, it is a positive step for the Mount Sinai Health System, as it will ensure that we have better support and resources from the state during this time. By declaring a State of Emergency, the governor will secure:

- Expedited procurement of cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, and other essential resources;
- Allowing qualified professionals other than physicians and nurses to conduct testing;
- Expedited procurement of testing supplies and equipment;
- Expedited personnel onboarding;
- Expedited leasing of lab space;
- Allowing EMS personnel to transport patients to quarantine locations other than just hospitals;
- Adjusted rules regarding transport, containment, treatment, and discharge of patients for the benefit of public health and community.

We are incredibly grateful and impressed by how quickly you have all jumped in. We recognize how challenging this week has been. We are proud to have this world-class team and thank you for all you are doing and all you do every day.

As always, we are making every effort to provide important updates as often as needed. If you have questions about COVID-19, you can email us here:

[CovidQuestions@mountsinai.org](mailto:CovidQuestions@mountsinai.org)

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