

COVID-19 Health System Updates

May 15, 2020 Friday

After the dizzying pace of March and April, May has brought us to a much less intense state of affairs. And we now look to the summer with not quite an expectation, but perhaps a reasonably well-grounded hope, that our region's COVID-19 numbers will keep moving in the right direction. Mixed in with that hope is speculation and fear about the possibility of a second wave of COVID-19. The bottom line is that we can't say for certain what the future holds.

You may be thinking that if a second wave does arrive, it will feel just as stressful and chaotic as the first. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our work together over the past few months has brought us to a much greater state of readiness for whatever the future brings.

Our extra inpatient units and our medical tents are fully constructed and at the ready, our supplies of PPE have never been stronger, and we have collectively become experts at keeping ourselves and our patients protected. We have gotten much better at onboarding and orientation of both external staffing as well as in our own internal ability to work where we are most needed. We are also much better at treating patients with COVID-19 than when we started. Our clinical protocols are stronger, our knowledge is deeper, and it continues to improve day by day and week by week.

If there is a second wave, we are ready for it. And it is likely that nothing will ever feel nearly as destabilizing and challenging as what we have already been through. It is important that we remember this as we look ahead.

Songs for Mount Sinai

The third installment of "Songs for Mount Sinai" is now live. As a reminder, this is a gift from Broadway actors, singers, and other performers who come together each week to support us with a video playlist. I hope you'll take a few moments to watch it, and I hope it lifts your day. You can find the new installment [here](#).

Your Questions and Concerns

As a reminder, our COVID-19 Employee Resources website is [here](#). And you can always email CovidQuestions@mountsinai.org if you have any other questions or suggestions for us.

Final Thought

I leave you with a quote from Maya Angelou that I think characterizes our work together during this humanitarian mission of our lifetimes.

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

Let's keep doing that.

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