

# COVID-19 Health System Updates

March 18 2020, Tuesday

COVID-19-positive cases continue to rise significantly each day. Governor Cuomo said yesterday that state modeling predicts that the number of cases, and the pressure on the health care system, will peak in about 45 days. These models are not perfect, but they do give us insight into what we need to prepare for. It is likely that we will need to massively expand our capacity to meet the need in the coming weeks. City, state, and federal regulations are being modified to make it easier for us to do that.

As the city and state take new steps to promote social distancing among the public, we are working to amplify that message across our communities in every way possible. And we need your help. Everyone—family, friends, and neighbors—needs to heed the warnings so we can slow down the rate of infection.

As of this morning there are 63 COVID-19 positive inpatients in our hospitals.

## *Employee resource website redesign*

The easy-to-access [COVID-19 employee resource website](#) redesign went live overnight. As a reminder, this doesn't require any password or access to the intranet. It is now designed to make it easier for you to find what you need.

## *Keeping your Mount Sinai ID badge with you at all times*

As the region's social distancing efforts continue to increase, it is important that you keep your Mount Sinai ID badge with you at all times. It is a means of demonstrating that you are in an essential function, and you may need it to ease your movement within the region and within our health system.

## *Guide to personal protective equipment (PPE) practices*

There is a terrific new guide that will help you know when to wear what and how to use it. You can find it [here](#).

I want to end on this note. I know that many of you are managing disruption and anxiety in your home lives in addition to the challenges that you face at work. You have partners and spouses and friends who are facing economic distress, job loss, and illness. You have children home from closed schools, and they may be scared and confused. There

is nothing easy about your work or home lives right now. We have to remember that, as hard as things are, and as hard as they become, we will get through this. The pandemic will end. We will get back to normal. In the meantime, let's remember to take the best care of each other that we possibly can. Each and every act of kindness and patience and decency will make us more resilient in the coming days.