

Preparing for the Future

May 15, 2020 Friday

This was a week of renewal and regeneration: this afternoon, we celebrated student graduations as we collectively continued working our way forward in this next phase of the recovery. Today, we have fewer than 500 COVID-19-positive patients in our hospitals. That is about one-quarter as many as we had at the peak. And, together, we have saved more than 5,000 lives.

This week serves as an important milestone for our medical school and students. Earlier this afternoon, we congratulated the Class of 2020 from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, as our students became doctors. This day marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and determination. We are deeply proud of all the students graduating, and we recognize that they enter the profession at one of the hardest, most tumultuous moments in our history. In light of this, today we shared a simple, eternal message about medicine: what we do matters, and perhaps now more than ever before.

As we told our new graduates this afternoon, these bad days have been a good teacher. They have shined a light on the reality that we are all part of something bigger. Mount Sinai is built upon that idea. In difficult times, our instinct is to come together. That unity is how we as medical practitioners have always risen above fear. It gives us motivation amid misery, allowing us to maintain hope even through the toughest moments.

We are all a part of something larger than ourselves when we come to work—a carefully coordinated, meticulous community of caregivers who work together to ensure no patient is left without the treatment they need. We know that we are coming out of this crisis stronger than we went in, and that by remaining united, we will be even stronger for any challenges ahead.

Thank you for all that you do every day for Mount Sinai—and for the world.

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