GREATER NEW YORK HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

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COVID-19 Update: Executive Order Identifies "Essential Health Care Operations"

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo latest Executive Order (EO), "New York State on PAUSE," includes a new directive that all non-essential businesses statewide must close in-office personnel functions effective at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 22. The EO lists the following "Essential Health Care Operations":

- research and laboratory services
- hospitals
- walk-in-care health facilities
- emergency veterinary and livestock services
- elder care
- medical wholesale and distribution
- home health care workers or aides for the elderly
- doctor and emergency dental
- nursing homes, or residential health care facilities or congregate care facilities
- medial supplies and equipment manufacturers and providers

GNYHA thanks the Governor for recognizing the critical role that health care workers are playing during the COVID-19 outbreak.

GNYHA recommends that member hospitals direct all staff, vendors, and contractors to travel with this document along with facility identification or other documents that connect their function to the facility.

Based on previous emergencies and ongoing coordination with government leaders and first responder agencies, GNYHA is confident that health care workers and others serving health care facilities will have freedom of movement. In the rare event that a problem does arise, the impacted individual should contact their home facility. If the facility is unable to resolve the issue, please call GNYHA's COVID-19 Response Hotline at 212-259-2919 for immediate support.

