**Subject:** Coronavirus Update #4

**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2020 12:36 PM **From:** Wendy Bringas On Behalf Of Bo Boulenger **To:** DG-BHSF Everyone; DG-BT Everyone Automated

## Ladies and Gentlemen:

I want to provide the latest information and reminders as they relate to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) to ensure everyone is up to date.

There are now 15 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). While the immediate risk of this virus to the American public remains low, we must continue to be vigilant and ensure we are taking all the measures necessary to protect our patients and our employees.

In times like these, individuals from our entities are called upon to lead system-wide efforts. Anexis Lopez from Doctors Hospital Infection Control, Luis Collado from Emergency Preparedness, and Dr. John Braden are leading our COVID-19 taskforce and protocols, which are overseen by Dr. Mark Hauser, president of Medical Staff Affairs, and Faith Solkoff, vice president of quality and accreditation operations. Anexis, Luis and Dr. Braden may be responding in person when potential situations arise at any of our locations to provide support with infection control and prevention and disaster response until the situation is resolved. Having a group of people identified to respond to certain scenarios allows them to deepen their experience and expertise and use that knowledge to identify opportunities in our processes that may be shared, and to guide best practices across the system. These fortunately have been low in frequency, but remain potentially high-impact situations for the entities and Baptist Health South Florida. We appreciate their collective leadership and guidance as they help our organization follow the CDC's guidelines for infection control and the evaluation and reporting of any suspected cases.

Please keep in mind the following important reminders:

- Employees, volunteers, students, contractors or members of the medical staff who have
  recently traveled to China, or have been in contact with someone who is either suspected to
  have or confirmed to have COVID-19, should call Baptist Health's Occupational Health Office
  immediately at (786) 596-2345. To ensure a safe working environment for everyone, those
  with recent travel to China will need to receive clearance before reporting to work. You may
  also email <a href="mailto:EmployeeCVInfo@baptisthealth.net">EmployeeCVInfo@baptisthealth.net</a>, a confidential inbox for employees' personal
  health concerns specific to coronavirus.
- Any communication to employees, medical staff or the public about this issue must go through our Corporate Marketing & Communications Department and the leadership team noted above.
- For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19, visit the <u>CDC website</u>. In addition, CDC guidance for healthcare professionals can be found <u>here</u>. This information is updated several times a week. You can also keep up to date about this topic by clicking on the banner on the Baptist Health intranet page, and on Baptist Health's Resource blog.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Bo Boulenger Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer