

**From:** Wendy Bringas <WendyB@baptisthealth.net> on behalf of Bo Boulenger <BoB@baptisthealth.net>

**Date:** Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 4:11 PM

**To:** DG-BHSF Everyone <DG-BHSFEveryone@baptisthealth.net>, DG-BT Everyone Automated <DG-BTEveryoneAutomated@baptisthealth.net>, BRRH Everyone <BRRHEveryone@brrh.com>, BRRH-BocaCare All <BocaCareAll@brrh.com>

**Subject:** COVID-19 Update - February 18, 2021

Dear Baptist Health Family,

We continue to see COVID-19 numbers trending in the right direction, demonstrating we have moved past the latest surge and things are getting better across the nation and in our state. The daily number of newly reported COVID-19 cases has decreased significantly nationally, and the rate of transmission in our state continues to be below 1.

While we are still caring for many patients with the virus, most of our hospitals are returning to a more manageable level of COVID-19 cases. We are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel, and we are focused on doing everything we can to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and the new virus variants.

#### **This Week's Numbers at a Glance**

- Currently, there are **304** individuals throughout our facilities who are COVID-19 positive or suspected to be positive, which is a decrease of 7% from last week, and approximately 10% from two weeks ago.
- We have discharged more than **12,000** patients who were treated for COVID-19.
- We have vaccinated more than **31,600** people including eligible employees, medical staff and eligible members of our community, with more than **30,600** of those having received the second dose of the vaccine.

#### **Vaccine Update**

In the U.S., there have been more people vaccinated (56.3 million) than there are confirmed COVID-19 cases (27.6 million). More than 2.4 million people have been vaccinated in Florida, and over 1.1 million of those individuals have received both doses. In Florida, 40 percent of people 65 and older have received the vaccine. This represents the highest rate in the U.S.

At Baptist Health, we continue to provide second doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to those who have already received their first dose, and we are continuing to work through our list of remaining employees and medical staff members **in priority group 1A** who wish to receive a first dose. Baptist Health has also received a very limited amount of vaccines, which the state has mandated be used only for first doses for medically vulnerable patients who are under 65. We are following the state's direction and are beginning by using these doses for patients of Miami Cancer Institute and Lynn Cancer Institute who meet this criteria. We are communicating with those patients directly.

Additionally, the state is offering residents a way to pre-register for the vaccine and save their place in line as vaccines become available, by visiting <https://myvaccine.fl.gov>. Anyone who has not yet received a vaccine is encouraged to register on this site.

Thank you for your great work and effort to protect yourself and others, and to care for our patients and community. We are encouraged by the current trends and will continue the important work at hand as we take care of our patients and work together to stop the spread of the virus.

### **Bo Boulenger**

**Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer**

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